

The Cabinet of
**LUCIEN M.
LARIVIERE**
PART III



May 21, 2001 • New York City

BOWERS AND MERENA GALLERIES
A Collectors Universe™ Company

The Cabinet of Lucien M. LaRiviere

Part III

also featuring The Douglas Noblet Collection of Liberty Seated Quarters, the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection, and a highly important selection of American Indian Peace Medals from the collection of A.B. Welch

May 21, 2001

New York City, New York



Important pedigreed Andrew Johnson Indian Peace Medal from the collection of A.B. Welch.

Bowers and Merena Galleries

— A Collectors Universe™ Company —

Box 1224 • Wolfeboro, NH 03894 • 800-458-4646 • In NH: 569-5095 • FAX: 603-569-5319

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About the Cover:

The central design element from the Daniel Morgan at Cowpens which features America as an Indian Queen placing a laurel wreath of victory on the head of Morgan. Specimens of the Libertas Americana medal and Franklin Sansom medal in silver are also shown.

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From the Cabinet of Lucien M. LaRiviere

COLOR PLATE I



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COLOR PLATE II



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COLOR PLATE III



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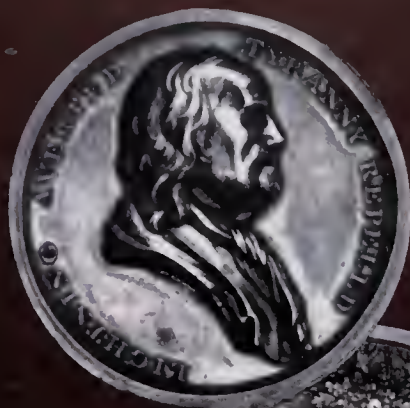


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COLOR PLATE IV



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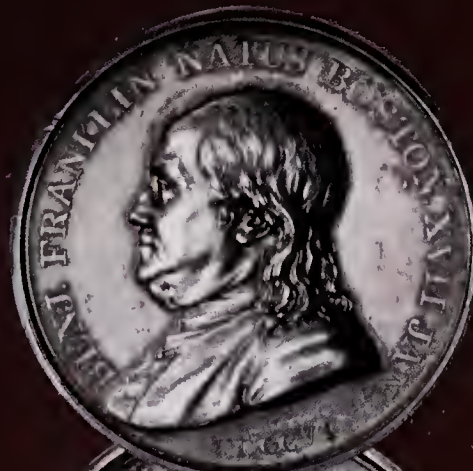
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COLOR PLATE VI



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COLOR PLATE VII



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1464 1465 1466 1467 1468 1489



1492 1497 1501



1502 1505 1506

SESSIONS

The Park Lane Ballroom, Park Lane Hotel

SESSION I - MONDAY MORNING, MAY 21

10:00 AM Sharp

U.S. Coins: Lots 1-477; 551-558; 561-636

Private and Territorial Gold Coins: Lots 478-484

Pattern Coins: Lots 485-501; Mint Errors: Lots 502-550

Hawaiian Coins: 559-560

We will serve a buffet dinner for registered bidders at 5:00 PM.

SESSION II - MONDAY EVENING, MAY 21

6:00 PM Sharp

Betts Medals: Lots 1001-1127

Indian Peace Medals: Lots 1128-1132

Colonial and U.S. Coins: Lots 1133-1539

AUCTION LOCATION

Park Lane Ballroom

Park Lane Hotel

36 Central Park South

New York City, New York

Telephone: (212) 371-4000

PRICES REALIZED

For prices realized after the sale, call (603) 569-5095, Ext. 98. Limit: 10 lots per caller.

A printed list of prices will be mailed to all subscribers after the sale.

Prices realized will be posted on the Internet soon after the sale at

www.bowersandmerena.com

LOT VIEWING

The Park Lane Ballroom, Park Lane Hotel

SATURDAY, MAY 19

11:00 AM — 5:00 PM

SUNDAY, MAY 20

9:00 AM — 1:00 PM ♦ 2:00 PM — 5:00 PM

HELPFUL SUGGESTION

We strongly recommend that our clients who intend to view a large portion of the sale, plan to do so as early in the lot viewing schedule as possible.

LOT PICK-UP

The Park Lane Ballroom, Park Lane Hotel

MONDAY, MAY 21

Approximately 40 minutes after the first session.

TUESDAY, MAY 22

9:00 AM — 10:30 AM

LOT VIEWING/LOT PICK-UP LOCATION

The Park Lane Ballroom
Park Lane Hotel
36 Central Park South
New York City, New York

BOWERS AND MERENA AUCTION SCHEDULE



JUNE 7, 2001

Kingswood Galleries—The Durham Sale (*Mail Bid and Internet Auction*)

JUNE 28-30, 2001

Chicago, Illinois (*in conjunction with the MidAmerica Coin Expo*)

AUGUST 6, 2001

Atlanta, Georgia

The Rarities Sale

Now accepting consignments.

SEPTEMBER 14-16, 2001

New York City, New York

Now accepting consignments.

OCTOBER 11, 2001

Kingswood Galleries—The Enfield Sale (*Mail Bid and Internet Auction*)

Now accepting consignments.

NOVEMBER 29-DECEMBER 1, 2001

Baltimore, Maryland (*in conjunction with the Suburban Washington/Baltimore Convention*)

Now accepting consignments.

JANUARY 8, 2002

Orlando, Florida

Now accepting consignments.

MARCH 14-16, 2002

Baltimore, Maryland

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Auction Director, John M. Pack

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John M. Pack, *Auction Director*
Cheryl Perry, *Administrative Assistant*
Beth O. Piper, *Kingswood Coordinator*

Professional Numismatists:

Q. David Bowers
Mark Borckardt
Frank Van Valen
John M. Pack
Beth O. Piper
John J. Kraljevich, Jr.
Gail Watson
Gordon Wrubel
and various consultants

AUCTIONEERS

John S. Babalis
Q. David Bowers
Christine Karstedt
Frank Van Valen

Appreciation is extended to the following for the preparation of this catalogue:

Cataloguing and numismatic expertise by Q. David Bowers, Mark Borckardt, John J. Kraljevich, Jr., John Pack, Beth O. Piper, and Frank Van Valen.

Photography by Douglas Plasencia.

Catalogue production by Jennifer Meers, Roberta French, Robert Lawrence, Christine Metcalfe. Catalogue coordination and advertising by Christine Karstedt.

AND, thanks to the entire Bowers and Merena Galleries staff for help in many ways. The presenting of a sale such as this is a highly coordinated team effort involving many talented people.

All illustrations are of the actual items being sold.

ADMINISTRATION

John S. Babalis, *Manager*
Cynthia LaCarbonara, *Auction Coordinator*
Carolyn Crague
Sheila Fuller
Pam Mitchell
Carol Travers
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FINANCIAL

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Natalie Smith

PUBLICATIONS

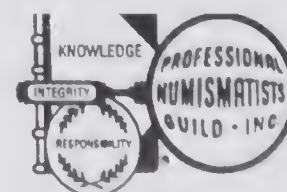
John Babalis
Mary Tocci

GRAPHICS

Jennifer Meers, *Manager*
Roberta French
Robert Lawrence
Christine Metcalfe

PHOTOGRAPHY

Douglas Plasencia, *Manager*

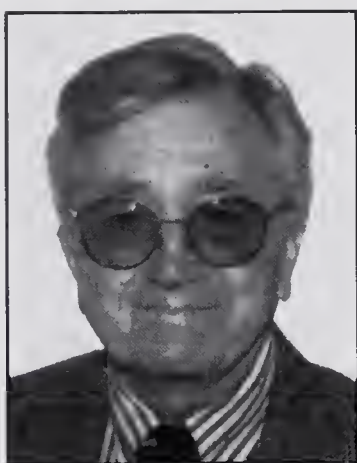


or use our One Lot Only service and bid on up to five lots and be assured of getting no more than one—or use both features together. Please see points 15 and 16 in the Terms of Sale.

Fax us your bid sheet (any time, 24 hours a day). Our direct fax number is **(603) 569-5319**.

THE CONSIGNORS

LaRiviere, Noblet & Travers



Lucien LaRiviere

We welcome Lucien LaRiviere to yet another Bowers and Merena catalogue. A numismatist for many years, Lucien has collected in many series, with one of his great loves being Betts medals—pieces produced in the 18th century and earlier, relating to American history. Our presentation of the first part of his Betts medals collection last March attracted worldwide attention, and we have every reason to expect that the present offering, concluding his cabinet, will do likewise. In this series the price paid for a given item is important, but the *opportunity* is often much more so. It may well be the case that whether in your lifetime you own a certain medal will depend on whether you are a successful bidder in this sale!

Lucien LaRiviere was born on February 14, 1922, in Providence, Rhode Island, and has always lived in his native state. He first discovered numismatics when he was about 10 years old, when his grandmother gave him a French coin, which he still has—nearly 70 years later! Among his first collecting experiences were finding Indian Head cents that were available in circulation back in the 1930s. Today, one can only contemplate what such an experience must have been like! “I was fascinated with the depiction of the Indian and would put them away, especially if they looked brand new, as a few occasionally did,” Lucien recently commented.

As the years moved forward Lucien did many things—attended the Rhode Island School of Design, Brown University, gained a commission in Navy at Cornell, served in World War II, and married his World War II pen pal and sweetheart, Evette. The couple have six

adult children, “who visit us often, as my wife is an excellent cook. Cuisinière, truly,” he commented.

Although Lucien had collected widely and for a long time, it was not until he attended a local coin club meeting and heard Richard August give a talk about early state coinage and early medals that he developed an interest in the specialty now being sold. “I found these early pieces really fascinating. In popular phraseology, I was hooked!”

Continuing his observations:

“The selection of Bowers and Merena Galleries that showcased my collection of Betts medals was a logical and easy one after their ‘Grand Format’ sale of my Washingtoniana which crossed the block in November of 1999 in a memorable sale.

Lucien also shared the observation that rather than have an “estate sale,” he has enjoyed, and will continue to enjoy, watching others purchase his treasures and appreciate them as he did. Moreover, the catalogues, the present one being the *third* to bear his name on the cover, will furnish an everlasting tribute to his collecting interests, efforts, and accomplishments.

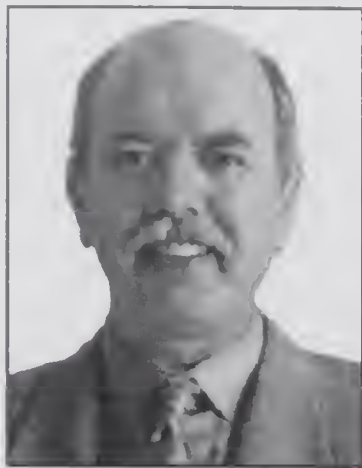
Further from Mr. LaRiviere:

My present collection is in ‘good hands,’ and I know well that the pieces will be presented to the best advantage and that others will enjoy not only the descriptions of the medals themselves, but their history and other information. To you, a prospective bidder on my medals, I hope that you will enjoy your pursuit and will continue the never-ending search for special medals, some of which I hope you will acquire here.

Bonne recherche et bonne chance (good hunting and good luck).

Lucien LaRiviere

Douglas L. Noblet



We welcome Doug Noblet as a consignor to our present sale, having featured many of his wonderful coins in the past, including one of the finest collections of Liberty Seated half dollars ever gathered by any numismatist in any era.

A true gentleman in every sense of the word, a connoisseur of coins, and a friend to all here

at Bowers and Merena, Doug has been a prince in the field of numismatics for many years. Each time he has attended one of our sales, or purchased items outright, his enthusiasm has been great. While we sell coins to many people, it is always nice at this end to have specimens reach new owners who are as excited about them as our consignors and our staff of cataloguers. While buying and selling coins can be viewed as a business transaction, it is often an emotional transaction as well, and some of the greatest “assets” on our personal balance sheets here at Bowers and Merena are fond memories and continuing experiences with collectors such as Doug Noblet and Lucien LaRiviere.

Doug started out being a collector in 1961 at age 12. In that time there were not as many entertainment possibilities as today—no video cassettes, no computers, but time to pursue hobbies in the old style—including collecting coins. In Kansas City, Missouri, he bought his first Whitman album, for Lincoln cents, the second of two albums put out at that time, covering issues from 1941 onward. Using the change from the dollar he tendered for the first album he made his first coin purchase, a 1951-D cent, which he still owns!

As many collectors are apt to do, Doug went from one numismatic delight and specialty to another, and over a period of time he met many people, traveled widely, and experienced the thrill of new specialties. Perhaps a secret to longevity in numismatics is the old saying, “Variety is the spice of life.” It is always exciting to read a reference book, or glance through an auction catalogue, or see a coin on exhibition, think to yourself, “I want one!” and then embark on a new collecting experience. In his book published in 1949, *Early American Cents*, Dr. William H. Sheldon mused that quite a few numismatists over the years have gone from one interest to another, with some of his close acquaintances finally landing upon early coppers as a prime interest.

In the early 1970s Doug worked part-time at a coin, stamp, and antique shop while finishing his college education, his employer was Hart Mayer, who sold him that 1951-D cent 10 years earlier! During this time Doug realized that he couldn’t collect everything, although his dream was to do so—and probably the same could be said for just about anyone. Thus, he set upon a specialty,

a long term one being Liberty Seated half dollars. Other items were collected as well, including Liberty Seated quarters in unbelievably high grade and beautiful quality, as presented in the pages of our catalogue.

Doug, the proud father of two beautiful children and the proud husband to Margo, lives in Kansas, but continues to travel widely, including occasionally to New England. While we have no way of predicting the future, it would not surprise us at all if he were to discover yet another specialty, and perhaps a few years down the line we will talk about him again in these pages!

Scott Travers

and The Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection

This collection is consigned to us by a Texas gentleman, who desires anonymity. However, his collection is certainly worthy of praise, not only for its size, but for the quality of the pieces therein. This magnificent collection designated as the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection was assembled over a period of many years, and consisted of literally thousands of coins at its height of completion. These coins were carefully chosen from the inventories of many dealers with an eye for superior quality.

When the time came to sell this vast holding, the gentleman contacted noted author, dealer, and past American Numismatic Association officer Scott Travers for professional advice. Scott worked closely with him to select from the many thousands of coins a grouping of premium quality certified coins that beyond the “numbers” were aesthetically and technically superb. These premium coins, housed in older generation “slabs” from the grading services, were chosen specifically for consignment to Bowers and Merena auction sales, while the remainder of the collection was sold through other channels.

The collection consists primarily of high-grade double eagles and silver dollars—two of the most popular series in numismatics—that were purchased for their superb quality and their aesthetic appeal and, where appropriate, might today be candidates for upgrading, and this possibility has not been tested.

“One look at the coins in this consignment will instantly reflect the premium quality involved,” Scott Travers recently said. “I encourage prospective bidders to take a look for themselves.”

Scott Travers has been a friend of the firm for a long time and, beyond that, has helped with various projects and on a few occasions has shared a speaking platform with our own Dave Bowers—ranging from serious seminars to skits at the Numismatic Literary Guild’s annual “bash.” All of this has been very enjoyable.

It is with pleasure that we welcome another consignment from one of Scott’s clients. Thank you very much.

WELCOME TO THE SALE!

The Cabinet of Lucien M. LaRiviere—Part III

by Q. David Bowers



Welcome to our sale! In the pages to follow you will find one of the most interesting, most varied, most desirable offerings of United States and early American pieces to be presented by us in recent times. The cover consignment, from well-known numismatist and fine friend Lucien LaRiviere, completes our offering of his Betts med-

als, showcasing items of incredible historical importance relating to the history of early America. Douglas L. Noblet, another well-known figure on the numismatic scene, has favored us with a marvelous consignment of Liberty Seated quarter dollars and other pieces. From the collection of A.B. Welch, a noted expert on Plains Indian culture, who died in 1945, comes a truly remarkable holding of Indian Peace medals, pure numismatic Americana. And then there is the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection, of which more will be said.

One day of numismatic “immersion” awaits you in New York City on Monday, May 21. Actually, lot viewing starts before then, but the sale will take place on this single day, punctuated by you being our guest for dinner. Come early to view the lots, bring your family with you to enjoy the sights and sounds of New York, and then be on hand as one of the finest sales of our time takes place. We look forward to seeing you there.

Diversity, quality, and fascination are three words that are completely appropriate for the sale. Early American coins are represented by interesting colonial and related issues. The Betts medals of Lucien LaRiviere are, of course, an event in themselves—an unforgettable offering. Federal coins range from half cents to double eagles. Along the way are many high-

lights. I touch briefly upon some of them...

Colonial coins include a remarkable circa 1616 Sommer Islands twopence—a coin so rare that sometimes a *decade* will pass without one crossing the block. A Maryland shilling featuring Cecil Calvert will be of interest, and other pieces could be mentioned as well. Among large copper cents there are many delights, commencing with a 1793 Chain, S-3. Small cents include the famous 1856 Flying Eagle and the 1877 Indian Head—plus many more.

Other highlights include attractive two-cent and three-cent pieces, some truly remarkable nickel five-cent pieces (check the super-gem 1937-D 3-Legged nickel!), and fascinating half dimes and dimes, the latter two silver denominations including, respectively, a Proof of 1829 and a Proof of 1825. Among 20-cent pieces a gem 1878 will attract attention.

Liberty Seated quarters from the Noblet Collection will command interest, followed in due course by some memorable half dollars among which I mention a beautiful and rare 1797, the 1861 Confederate Restrike, a gem 1873 With Arrows, and more. Silver dollars, always a Bowers and Merena specialty, range from early to recent, and include the 1836 Gobrecht, many Morgan dollars, attractive Peace dollars, and more. A very special collection of Mint errors of Eisenhower dollars has been consigned by me personally (I enjoyed collecting these years ago, and now share them with others).

Gold coins are deluxe from dollars to double eagles, and throughout our offering there are many pieces that even the late Harry Bass or Louis Eliasberg would have enjoyed owning! Lustrous, glittering gem Mint State pieces at numerical and quality levels seldom encountered, great Proof rarities and more—a truly fascinating, delightful offering. When buying *any* rarity it is interesting to know the story of it, and I have shared a few comments in the

offering of the 1907 With-Periods Wire Rim \$10, which I hope you enjoy. To me, just about any coin—make that common as well as rare—can be appreciated fully if one learns its story. Such considerations are precisely what keep me enthusiastic and excited every time we present an auction catalogue. There is always something new, something different, something fascinating, something to be learned. I really love gold coins, and reviewing the pieces in the present sale and helping catalogue them was a pleasure.

Commemorative coins include silver and gold issues highlighted by the rarities—the 1915-S Panama-Pacific octagonal \$50 and the even rarer round format of the same denomination. Private and territorial gold coins include a number of desirable pieces, each of which have their stories—check the little narrative that follows that Miners Bank \$10 as an example.

The Betts medals from the Lucien LaRiviere Collection and some highly important and wonderfully pedigreed Indian Peace medals from another consignment are featured, with appropriate commentary. For those unfamiliar with the Betts medal series, they were first assembled in print in 1894 by C. Wyllys Betts in his *American Colonial History Illustrated by Contemporary Medals*—the title truly says it all. This session features medals struck in the 16th century celebrating the settlements of the New World, medals struck in commemoration of actions in the Caribbean colonies that formed an important part of the colonial empires, and medals noting and rewarding actions of the American Revolution. What a delightful smorgasbord!

A small but extraordinarily important consignment of Indian Peace medals follows, each pedigreed to the Native Americans who loved them in the frontier days of the Dakotas. This grouping is unparalleled in numismatic history, and any student of American history will enjoy these wonderful artifacts. Indian Peace medals with incredible pedigrees, often continually linked since the time of presentation, are from the A.B. Welch Collection and are a highlight of this sale. Early Indian Peace medals are seldom seen in the auction forum, and when they are, they typically stand alone, with few clues to the specifics of where they have been and what they have seen. The Welch Indian Peace medals are truly remarkable exceptions, and as such they are American historical

treasures. Special commentaries concerning these medals are presented in that section.

Plan to participate in the sale in one of several ways. Your in-person attendance is invited, and I am sure you and your family will enjoy the experience. While you are at it, be sure to check the Saint-Gaudens “Victory” statue at Central Park South, the motif that inspired the 1907 double eagle—a great “photo opportunity” for your scrapbook of numismatic memories. Fine restaurants and shopping opportunities abound. Or, you can bid by mail, telephone, fax, or e-mail. Modern communications are wonderful, aren’t they? Be sure to be a part of one of the greatest numismatic events of our time.

Whatever method you choose, “be here” on May 21st. After each sale we invariably hear something like, “I wish I had bid on lot such-and-such, as I would love to own it.” Of course, by that time the item has been sold to someone else. *Right now*, as you read these words, each and every item is available, and your chance is as good as anyone else’s. The coin market is strong and excellent, very healthy, and in recent times we have seen intense action on the part of *serious numismatists* buying coins, tokens, medals, and paper money for their collections—to enjoy for a long time. This is basic solidity, a secure foundation. A fine collection, carefully gathered and held for a number of years, often can be a rewarding financial investment—without any of the “Monday morning surprises” that sometime characterize other markets. The glory part is that all along the way there are many challenges, nice people to meet, and experiences to enjoy—as, indeed, most readers are doing and have done.

On behalf of our staff I thank the consignors as well as our team of professional numismatists, collectively the finest group ever gathered in the history of numismatics, in my not-unbiased opinion! Now it is your turn, the coins are here for your bidding consideration. We all appreciate your interest.

Sincerely,



Q. David Bowers, President
Bowers and Merena Galleries

*Another fine
Bowers and Merena sale
is about to begin...*



SESSION ONE

Monday Morning, May 21, 10:00 AM Sharp

U.S. Coins: Lots 1-477; 551-558; 561-636

Private and Territorial Gold Coins: Lots 478-484

Pattern Coins: 485-501; Mint Errors: Lots 502-550

Hawaiian Coins: Lots 559-560

SILVER DOLLARS

Our sale begins with a very attractive selection of early silver dollars from 1795 onward. In recent years silver dollars of this era, long neglected, have come to the forefront. We like to think that Dave Bowers' two-volume book set, *Silver Dollars and Trade Dollars of the United States: A Complete Encyclopedia*, had something to do with it, with the demand being carried forward in more recent times by Jules Reiver's update of the Bolender text. Date for date, rarity level for rarity level, many silver dollars of this era are considerably less expensive than are copper cents. Of course, copper cents are dear to the hearts of many numismatists and are very desirable to collect—now and forever—but, the commentary does point out that there is a great deal of *numismatic value* to be investigated among silver dollars such as we now offer.



- 1 **1795 Bowers Borckardt-11, Bolender-3. Rarity-5-. Flowing Hair. Head of '94. Two Leaves. VG-8.** Golden gray surfaces with lighter silver gray high points. Few marks of any kind are seen on the surfaces of this rare variety, but a scattering of tiny edge bruises must be called to the reader's attention. All things considered, still a highly collectible example of this rarity. This specific example is extremely important to specialists, representing a previously unrecorded late die state. See our notes below. This die state may be unique and certainly suggests the termination of this reverse die early in 1795.

As Q. David Bowers noted in his *Silver Dollars and Trade Dollars of the United States, A Complete Encyclopedia*, "between 50 and 75 1795 BB-11 dollars exist, making this one of the more elusive issues of the Flowing Hair type."

Further in this same reference, this variety was recorded only from perfect dies. This example, however, has a prominent die crack on the reverse from the border grazing the right side of C, continuing through the wreath and terminating in the field below base of the eagle's left wing, to the viewer's right.



- 2 **1795 BB-22, B-10. Rarity-5+. Two Leaves, Head of '95. F-15 (NGC).** Pleasing silver gray fields with heather gray higher surfaces. Well struck, nicely centered, and with a very attractive overall prospect. A quality seldom seen at the F-15 level. Worthy of a strong bid!

1796 Draped Bust \$1



- 3 **1796 BB-65, B-5. Flowing Hair. Large Date, Small Letters. VF-25.** Sharpness of EF-40, rough and minor abrasions. Slate gray with lighter steel gray high points. Sharpness of a much finer grade, but the surfaces are faintly porous and granular in places. A few scattered marks are noted.

The editor (QDB) believes that the mintage of 1796 silver dollars is approximately the same as that of silver dollars dated 1797, although many published figures give a much larger quantity to 1796.



- 4 1797 BB-71, B-3. 10X6 Stars, Large Letters. VF-20. Smoky golden gray surfaces with some deeper toning on the high points. Lightly cleaned long ago, now naturally retined. A few faint marks are noted.

Among silver dollars of this era, the 1797 is generally regarded as the scarcest, although as noted in the preceding commentary, the 1796 furnishes competition to it. Just three different die combinations are known, with this having the distinctive 10X6 obverse. A popular coin in any market season.



- 5 1797 BB-73, B-1. Draped Bust. 9X7 Stars, Large Letters. VF-20. sharpness of VF-35, cleaned, minor roughness. Silver gray with golden overtones. Cleaned long ago. Some patches of roughness are noted on both sides. Still, a highly collectible example of the Draped Bust, Small Eagle type. The third and last variety of 1797 (the present offering being complete except for BB-72). Scarce and in strong demand.



- 6 1798 BB-106, B-19. Rarity-4+. Pointed 9, Heraldic Eagle. Wide Date, 13 Arrows. EF-40 (ANACS). Attractive golden gray with lighter high points. Splashes of bright blue and gold iridescence grace the recessed areas. A scarce variety, and a coin that is perhaps among the finest known of the variety, certainly a piece with claims to Condition Census honors for the variety.



- 7 1798 BB-109, B-10. Rarity-4+. Pointed 9, Heraldic Eagle. Wide Date, 13 Arrows. VF-30. Attractive golden gray surfaces with strong eye appeal for the assigned grade. Only minimal marks are visible, and the overall appeal is quite fine. A very elusive variety, one that we estimate may have as few as 125 or so specimens surviving within the variety.

- 8 1798 BB-110, B-16. Rarity-5+. Pointed 9, Heraldic Eagle. Wide Date, 13 Arrows. AG-3. Medium steel gray with a touch of gold. Well worn on both sides. A scattering of tiny marks crosses the obverse. A filler example of a rare variety.

The obverse die crack that runs from the rim at 7:00 horizontally across Liberty's lowest curl and the tops of the 1 and 7 in the date is present, although quite weak to the viewer's left.



- 9 1798 BB-112, B-15. Rarity-3. Pointed 9, Heraldic Eagle. Wide Date, 13 Arrows. F-15, sharpness of EF-40, holed and expertly plugged at 4:00 relative to the obverse. The surfaces were cleaned and an attempt at artificial retining was made to hide the repair work. Deep golden gray with dark lilac on the high points. Lightly struck at the reverse center, with the eagle's head and several stars to the right virtually nonexistent, not an unusual state for this die variety.



- 10 1798 BB-115, B-31. Rarity-3+. Pointed 9, Heraldic Eagle. Close Date, 13 Arrows. EF-45 (ANACS). Lilac gray with deeper gray highlights in the recessed areas. Choice for the grade, and free of all but some trivial marks. Almost certainly a candidate for Condition Census honors for this fairly elusive variety. A splendid opportunity for the Draped Bust dollar enthusiast.

BB-15 represents the only use of this particular die. A reverse die crack runs from the rim at 2:00, then across the uppermost feather of the eagle's wing, and from there to the cloud below F. Other faint cracks are seen around OF.



- 11 1798 BB-115, B-31. Rarity-3+. Pointed 9, Heraldic Eagle. Close Date, 13 Arrows. VF-35 (ANACS). Attractive steel gray with lighter gray high points. A few faint marks are present, but the eye appeal is more than sufficient for the assigned grade. Some striking weakness at the reverse, in the clouds above the eagle's head.

From the same reverse die state as the previous lot.



- 14 1798 BB-115, B-31. Rarity-3+. Pointed 9, Heraldic Eagle. Close Date, 13 Arrows. F-15, sharpness of VF-35, with some problems. Golden gray surfaces present readily apparent roughness; this specimen may have spent some time in the ground. An area of tooling appears on the obverse below LI in LIBERTY.



- 12 1798 BB-115, B-31. Rarity-3+. Pointed 9, Heraldic Eagle. Close Date, 13 Arrows. Net VF-30 (ANACS), sharpness of AU-50, reverse damaged. Charcoal verging on black in areas on the obverse, with lighter high points there. Reverse a mix of mottled violet and steel gray. A few faint marks are present, but none immediately draw the viewer's eye.

From a very early state of the dies, without appreciable appearance of reverse cracks. Rare thus!



- 15 1798 BB-116, B-30. Rarity-4-. Pointed 9, Heraldic Eagle. Close Date, 13 Arrows. VF-35. Smoky golden gray surfaces with wisps of lilac and gold. A few stray marks are present, none of which are overly serious. In fact, the reverse is essentially devoid of contact marks, the features there being fresh and undisturbed. A decent example of a fairly scarce variety. Not bad!

The reverse die of this die marriage was only used to strike at BB-116.



- 13 1798 BB-115, B-31. Rarity-3+. Pointed 9, Heraldic Eagle. Close Date, 13 Arrows. VF-25. Medium silver gray with a hint of golden toning. Some deeper toning and detritus is noted in the recessed areas.

From the typically seen state of the reverse die, with various cracks in the peripheral regions.



- 16 1798 BB-118, B-28. Rarity-3. Pointed 9, Heraldic Eagle. Close Date, 13 Arrows. VF-20. Fairly bright silver gray surfaces show the effects of an old cleaning; not a harsh cleaning, but definitely rubbed. A few stray marks are also present. Certainly a bit of judicious retoning might benefit this otherwise attractive coin.

From a late state of the reverse die, described as follows in the Bowers *Encyclopedia*: "Additional cracks from rim through U to N to arrow to second feather; rim over U through NITE to wing to STA; O through F to AMERICA to rim; rim below stem to nearest A; stem to claw to leaf. Small piece of die missing in area of two approximately parallel cracks immediately to the left of the eagle's tail. The approximate die state described by Bolender for Bolender-28."

- 17 1798 BB-119, B-29. Rarity-3+. Pointed 9, Heraldic Eagle. Close Date, 13 Arrows. EF-45 (NGC). Attractive lilac gray with some golden iridescence and lustre in the recessed areas. A visually pleasing coin, a specimen devoid of all but the most trivial marks. Not a rarity overall, but certainly highly elusive in this lofty grade. The present specimen is probably not far from the low end of the Condition Census for the variety, and indeed, may fall readily into that numerical listing.

- 18 1798 BB-119, B-29. Rarity-3+. Pointed 9, Heraldic Eagle. Close Date, 13 Arrows. F-15. Sharpness of VF-25. Lilac gray with lighter high points. Cleaned long ago, now naturally retoning. Some random edge marks are noted for accuracy. This specimen bears a plain edge, the planchet having apparently missed the edge lettering process.



- 19 1798 BB-122, B-14. Rarity-3. Pointed 9, Heraldic Eagle. Wide Date, 13 Arrows. EF-45 (NGC). Pleasing lilac gray with perhaps a touch of olive. A thoroughly attractive specimen, free of substantial contact marks and loaded with eye appeal. A definitely choice example of this moderately scarce variety, a coin that probably fits securely in the Condition Census for the variety.

On the reverse of BB-122, the eagle's left quarter touches the lower right foot of the final A in AMERICA, the only 1798 reverse where this occurs. Also, this reverse die makes its only appearance on the BB-122 variety.



- 20 1798 BB-122, B-14. Rarity-3. Pointed 9, Heraldic Eagle. Wide Date, 13 Arrows. VF-20. Lilac gray with golden gray high points. Some obvious die rust is seen in the field above Liberty's head, immediately below the 1B of LIBERTY. Additional die rust has caused roughness among the stars on the viewer's left of the obverse.



- 21 1798 BB-124, B-24. Pointed 9, Heraldic Eagle. Wide Date, 13 Arrows. EF-40 (ANACS). Delightful golden gray with bursts of deep golden toning in the recessed areas. A pleasing example with just a few trivial contact marks present. The "Blundered Stars" reverse, with the two uppermost reverse stars imbedded in the clouds above as Dave Bowers noted in his *Encyclopedia*, "Perhaps the engraver had too much rum (or ale, per National Archives records) while cutting this die!" From a fairly rare die state, and desirable as such. A pleasing coin overall.

Die State III: die crack just beginning at star 12; hairline crack extends to border; crack inward a short distance into the field. On the reverse, the stars above and to the right of the eagle's head are always weakly struck, due to damage and bulging at the corresponding part of the obverse; this weakness continues on all later die states. Only a few BB-124 dollars are of this state."



- 22 1798 BB-125, B-8. Pointed 9, Heraldic Eagle. Close Date, 12 Arrows. VF-20. Deep golden gray. Some light marks are present, including tiny rim bruises on both the obverse and reverse rim at 3:00. The "Misoriented Star" reverse. The rightmost star is misoriented and has two rays toward the top of the coin, instead of the normal vertical orientation of one ray pointing straight up and the other straight down, the only such skewing of a star on the reverse of a 1798 dollar.

Incredible Uruguay Peso Overstrike on Early \$1



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 23 1844 Uruguay peso overstruck on an early Draped Bust, Heraldic Eagle reverse U.S. silver dollar. EF-40. A circulating silver dollar, which somehow found its way to South America, was used in 1844 as the planchet for this lovely Uruguay silver peso. While the peso on its own is very attractive and numismatically desirable, the focal point for most bidders will be its undertype, a United States silver dollar the details of which are still visible in certain instances—an example being part of the eagle and arrows. In many years of studying silver dollars and examining more than we have kept track of, and looking for unusual related items as well, this is the first piece which we have ever laid eyes upon, and one of just two such overstrikes reported. For the specialist in silver dollars this is a conversation piece, showpiece, a coin of incredible interest and significance. (Est: \$3,000-\$5,000)



- 24 1799 BB-153, B-4. Rarity-3. Irregular Date. 15 Stars. EF-45 (PCGS). Silver gray surfaces show some mint lustre and bright golden toning on the high points. A pleasing coin for the grade. The "Irregular Date" variety, so named because the first 9 seems to tilt dramatically to the left, while the second 9 seems to tilt somewhat to the right. The reverse of BB-153 is quite famous and popular in its own right. The 15 stars in the reverse field above the eagle's head appear to be, at first count, just a group of 13 stars. Careful examination reveals the points of two hidden stars, one at the leftmost cloud and the other at the rightmost cloud. Die State II with incused dentils from the reverse (caused by clashed dies) evident between the leftmost stars and the obverse dentils. Several other cracks appear on the obverse.



- 25 1799 BB-153, B-4. Irregular Date, 15 Stars. VF-35 (ICG). Medium silver gray with splashes of golden iridescence in the recessed areas. Another pleasing example of this popular variety.



- 26 1799 BB-155, B-19. Rarity-4+. Normal Date. EF-40 (ANACS). Deep slate gray with some golden toning on the high points. Splashes of iridescent rose and blue add to the overall appeal of this attractive coin. In his *Encyclopedia*, Dave Bowers wrote that BB-155 is "one of the key rarities of the year. I believe that only 70 to 100 exist today." The present coin affords the prospective bidder the opportunity to obtain a most pleasing example of a fairly rare variety. Die State IV: Obverse crack expands to the right, through date, to border to below drapery, and left through the first three stars, then to border. Another crack from border crosses star 3 into the field. Another crack runs from the second star to Liberty's hair. The reverse now has a crack from the rim to the right side of the D in UNITED. A rare die state.



- 27 1799 BB-155, B-19. Rarity-4+. Normal Date. VF-35. Subdued lustre glows warmly on golden gray surfaces. Splashes of iridescent navy and lilac grace the reverse. Nice for the grade, devoid of all but some small trivial marks. A second thoroughly pleasing example of this very scarce variety for your bidding pleasure.

From the same die state as the preceding lot.



- 30 1799 BB-162, B-6. Rarity-3. Normal Date. EF-40 (ANACS). Lilac-gray with lighter high points. A few scattered marks are seen on Liberty's cheek, but the overall appearance is above average for the grade.

Die State III: A faint die crack connects the final three stars on the obverse, while the reverse shows a crack from the rim to the seventh star, and another through OF to the eagle's wing. The obverse of this particular specimen does not show the slight crack along the border opposite bust that is called for in the literature, and may be quite scarce as such.



- 28 1799 BB-161, B-11. Normal Date. EF-45 (NGC). Lilac-gray with some light golden highlights on the high points. A reverse toning spot is seen above the eagle's head, otherwise the surfaces are free of detracting marks. A pleasing example of a readily available variety.

Die State II: Large crack from left border goes past right side of D in UNITED to eagle's wing, and from there toward the star at the eagle's beak. A spur of the crack goes to the edge of D and then downward to the ribbon. A fairly scarce die state.



- 31 1799 BB-168, B-22. Rarity-3. Normal Date. VF-20 (ANACS). Medium silver gray with golden highlights on the high points. Obverse sharpness and quality congruent with the assigned grade, while the reverse is easily of EF-40 quality. A popular and readily recognizable variety, with a reverse die crack that runs from rim to rim from 3:00 to 9:00.

- 32 1799 BB-169, B-21. Net VG-10; sharpness of VF-20, harshly cleaned. Mottled light silver with deeper gray. A few very minor rim bruises and other distractions are noted.

Several very fine peripheral die cracks are visible on the reverse.



- 29 1799 BB-161, B-11. Normal Date. EF-40 (ANACS). Lustrous lilac-gray surfaces display a bright sheen of iridescent sea green, blue, and rose. An altogether pleasing example of the date and grade, with surfaces virtually devoid of contact marks of any consequence. A second pleasing example of the variety.

Same die state as the preceding coin.



- 33 1800 BB-189, B-5. Rarity-3+. VF-20 (ANACS). Deep slate gray with silver gray high points. A few stray marks are noted, most prominent of these being a reverse rim bruise at 6:00. A reverse die flaw just to the left of the lower part of the second T in STATES quickly identifies this reverse. The 1 and 8 in the date appear very crude in comparison to the ciphers that follow. A moderately scarce variety.

High-Grade 1800 BB-190 \$1



- 34 1800 BB-190, B-10. Wide Date, Low 8. AU-50. An especially high-grade example of BB-190, a variety which when seen is apt to be VF or, occasionally, EF, very rarely AU. The present piece is fairly well struck, has attractively mottled gray and iridescent toning, is well centered, and in every respect will nicely answer the call for a representative silver dollar of this date.



- 35 1800 BB-193, B-13. EF-45 (NGC). Lilac-gray with deeper slate in the recessed areas, and with light golden highlights on the high points. A few faint marks are seen, but the overall appearance is quite choice. A popular variety.



- 36 1801 BB-214, B-4. Rarity-3. EF-40. Lustrous silver gray with iridescent sea green, violet, peach, and gold on both sides. A dark and somewhat rough area appears at the top of the obverse encompassing LIBERTY and the upper curls of Liberty's hair.



- 37 1802 BB-241, B-6. Narrow Date. EF-40. Medium silver gray with a touch of rose on the high points and some remaining lustre in the recessed areas. Very few marks of consequence appear on this attractive early dollar.

Attractive EF 1803 BB-254 Dollar



- 38 1803 BB-254, B-4. Rarity-3. Small 3. EF-45 (ANACS). Attractive golden gray surfaces display bright splashes of mint lustre in the recessed areas. A pleasing coin for the grade, certainly choice and worthy of serious bidder consideration. Very few marks of any consequence are noted, and the overall appeal is quite high. A definite prize for the enthusiast of Draped Bust silver dollars.

1836 Gobrecht Dollar

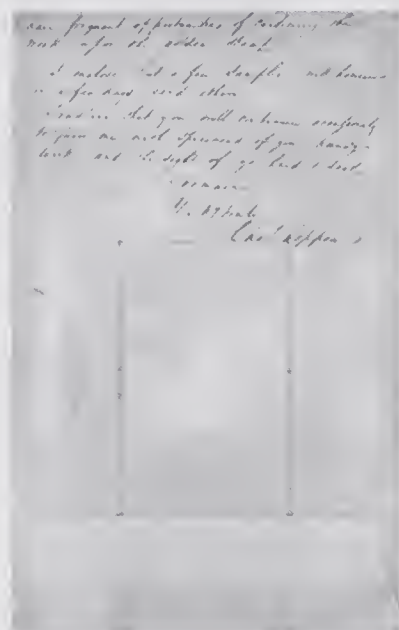
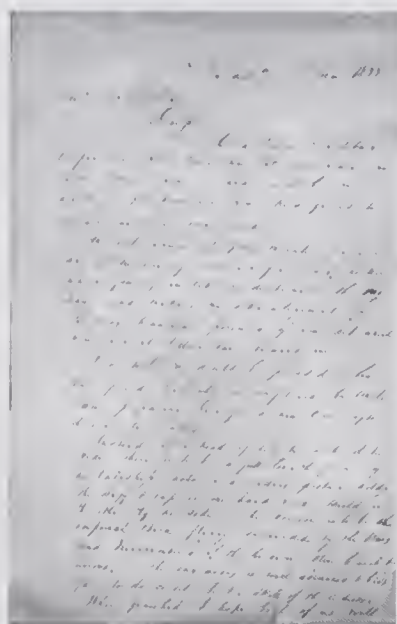
Original Issue



- 39 1836 Pollock-65, Judd-60. Original. Proof-40 (PCGS). Although sometimes called a pattern, P-65, J-60. Most of the pieces struck were placed into circulation at face value, where they served as a medium of commerce. From this particular die combination—Liberty Seated on the obverse with C. GOBRECHT F on the base, and with the reverse displaying an eagle flying “onward and upward” in a field of 26 stars. The mintage amounted to 600 pieces in 1836 and 1,000 in 1837, the latter from the same die pair. The 1836 Original issues are characterized by having a die orientation coin-wise, with the obverse and reverse 180 degrees apart, with the positioning determined by the words ONE DOLLAR on the reverse side. Thus, the eagle does fly “onward and upward,” rather than horizontal as on other issues.

Although years ago this was widely considered to be a pattern and only a pattern, today the 1836 Gobrecht dollar is enthusiastically incorporated into collections of regular silver dollar issues and is often added to a type set. The present piece is quite attractive for the variety and grade.

Original Gobrecht-Related Letter



- 40 We present an extremely important historical letter from Charles Toppan, Philadelphia bank note engraver, June 18, 1836, to Edward Stabler, Esq., in which is mentioned the work of Christian Gobrecht, then second engraver at the Mint, who was busy at work on silver dollars. This identical letter was quoted in *The Numismatist*, March 1913. From then it went into the collection of F.C.C. Boyd, then John J. Ford, Jr., then to a private library.

The text extends on the front of the letter and part of the verso, and notes in its entirety:

Hard labor & solitary confinement have been my lot ever since my last letter to you and must be my apology for permitting your rec'd favors to remain so long unanswered.

An *interregnum* of five minutes gives me an opportunity of writing a few lines, picking up a few of our late productions in the [unclear] way and making my acknowledgements for the very beautiful specimens of your art, which your several letters have brought me.

You will no doubt be pleased to hear that friend Gobrecht is employed by Uncle Sam, preparing dies for a new coin, after designs by Sully.

Instead of a head of Liberty on the Dexter side, there is to be a full length figure of her ladyship in a sitting posture, hold'g the staff & cap in one hand & the shield in the other by her side. The reverse is to be the imperial bird flying, surrounded by the stars and disencumbered of the gridiron [striped shield], olive branch & arrows. The engraving is well advanced & that bids fare to do credit to the skill of the artists.

When finished I hope both of us will have frequent opportunities of criticizing the work upon the golden stamp. [Apparently, it was intended that this design be used on *gold* coins, which never happened.]

I enclose but a few samples, will however in a few days send others.

Trusting that you will continue occasionally to favor me with specimens of your handy work, and the site of your hand & seal,

I remain

Yrs. V. truly

Charles Toppan.

It is seen that this letter would be of incredible importance to the Liberty Seated specialist, historian, or any other person who desires a direct link with the creation of one of the most important numismatic designs of the 19th century.

(Est.: \$1,000-\$2,500)

- 41 1847 AU-50. A relatively high-grade example of one of the more available dates of the 1840-1865 Liberty Seated silver dollar type without motto.
- 42 1850-O VF-30. Lilac-gray surfaces with lighter high points. Devoid of all but a few trivial marks, and decidedly choice for the grade. Second New Orleans Mint issue among Liberty Seated dollars. Quite scarce and always in demand.
- 43 1859-S VF-30. Light lilac-gray with lighter golden high points. A tiny rim bruise is noted below the 9 in the date, and another slight rim bruise is noted at 9:00 on the reverse. A scarce and elusive issue, a desirable date in all grades.

A *de facto* trade dollar, expressly struck at the request of San Francisco merchants who desired dollar-sized coins to use in trade with China, to bypass the detested procedure of paying a 3% to 4% premium to buy Mexican dollars for the same purpose. Coinage of 1859-S dollars amounted to 20,000 pieces—most of which were sent to China—the arrangement being a complete success. However, it was not repeated, for legislators in Washington, were such authorizations were made, were not particularly considerate of the needs of California commerce, viewing the district as quite remote and in many ways not important to mainstream America.

Eye-Pleasing Proof 1863 Dollar

Rare Too!



- 44 1863 Proof-64 (NGC). A very attractive coin, a treat to the eye, with deep mirror surfaces overlaid with delicate champagne toning at the centers, giving way to light gold and magenta, accented at the rims with splashes of electric blue. Very few silver dollars of this date offer beauty of this nature.

In addition to the desirability of the coin from a aesthetic viewpoint, the 1863 Proof dollar combines two elements of rarity. First of all, related circulation strikes are very rare in all grades and are virtually unobtainable in Mint State—placing extra market demand on the relatively few available Proofs. Second, the Proof mintage was rather low, and of the mintage, only a few can compare to this.

- 45 1872 Date in Rock. Net AU-50; sharpness of AU-55, cleaned.

By mistake the four-digit logotype was tapped so that traces of an erroneous date appear below the figure of Miss Liberty in the base of the rock. Curious, to say the least, but not a great rarity—as a fairly decent percentage of the circulation strikes of this date are of this particular style.

- 46 **Selection of Morgan dollars:** ☆ 1878 8 Tailfeathers. MS-63 ☆ 1878 7 Tailfeathers. MS-62 (2) ☆ 1879-S 3rd Reverse. MS-65 ☆ 1880-S (3). MS-65, MS-64, MS-62 ☆ 1881-S MS-62 ☆ 1882-O MS-61 ☆ 1883-CC MS-61 ☆ 1884-O MS-63 ☆ 1885-O MS-63 ☆ 1886 MS-62 ☆ 1887 MS-63 ☆ 1888 MS-63 ☆ 1889 MS-63 ☆ 1890 MS-63 ☆ 1891 MS-60 ☆ 1895-O EF-40 ☆ 1896 MS-63 ☆ 1897 MS-63 ☆ 1898-O MS-65 ☆ 1899-O MS-65 ☆ 1901-O MS-62 ☆ 1902-O MS-61 1904-O MS-63 PL ☆ 1921-D MS-63. A nice selection. (Total: 27 pieces)

What a lovely selection this would be as a starter collection of the Morgan dollar series—which, when completed with one of each date and mintmark would comprise close to 100 different. The present grouping includes more than 25% of the challenges!

- 47 **Grouping of Mint State dollars:** ☆ 1878 8 Tailfeathers. MS-61 ☆ 1878 Doubled Tailfeathers. MS-62. Frosty surfaces with a minute toning spot on the obverse ☆ 1878 7 Tailfeathers. MS-62. Just a whisper of delicate golden toning ☆ 1878-CC MS-63 ☆ 1878-S MS-62 ☆ 1880-S MS-65 ☆ 1899 MS-63. Satiny surfaces ☆ 1903-O MS-63. All are brilliant and lustrous except where noted. (Total: 8 pieces)
- 48 **Grouping of Mint State dollars:** ☆ 1878 Doubled Tailfeathers. Weak. MS-63 (PCGS) ☆ 1879 MS-63 (PCGS) ☆ 1879-S 3rd Reverse. MS-64 (PCGS) ☆ 1880-CC MS-63 ☆ 1880-S MS-63 (PCGS) ☆ 1881-O MS-63 (NGC) ☆ 1882 MS-63 (PCGS) ☆ 1882-S MS-64 (PCGS) ☆ 1884-O MS-63 (PCGS) ☆ 1885 MS-64 (ICG) ☆ 1886 MS-63 (PCGS) ☆ 1888-O MS-63 (PCGS) ☆ 1890-O MS-63 (NGC) ☆ 1867 MS-63 (PCGS) ☆ 1898 MS-63 (PCGS) ☆ 1898-O MS-63 (PCGS) ☆ 1900 MS-63 (PCGS) ☆ 1901-O MS-64 (PCGS) ☆ 1902-O MS-63 (PCGS) ☆ 1904-O MS-63 (PCGS). Mostly brilliant and lustrous with a few having various degrees of golden toning at the peripheries. (Total: 21 pieces)
- 49 **Grouping of Morgan dollars:** ☆ 1878 7 Tailfeathers, 2nd Reverse. MS-62 ☆ 1878 8 Tailfeathers. MS-63 ☆ 1878-S MS-63 ☆ 1878-CC MS-63 ☆ 1880 AU-58 ☆ 1881-S MS-63 ☆ 1882-CC MS-64 ☆ 1882-O AU-58 ☆ 1882-S MS-65. Each is lustrous and attractive with hints of delicate toning. (Total: 9 pieces)
- 50 **Grouping of silver dollars:** ☆ 1878 7 Tailfeathers, 2nd Reverse. MS-62. Lustrous with delicate golden toning at the peripheries ☆ 1887-S MS-62. Lustrous with delicate toning ☆ 1888-S AU-58. Lustrous ☆ 1889-S AU-58. Lustrous with soft golden orange toning at the devices ☆ 1890-CC AU-58. Whispers of soft golden toning ☆ 1891-O MS-61. Lustrous with some minute spotting noted ☆ 1898-S MS-60. Splashes of faint golden brown toning. (Total: 7 pieces)
- 51 **1878-CC MS-65 (ICG).** Brilliant and highly lustrous silver surfaces.
VAM-11, which describes the reverse die with several large die gouges visible in the eagle's wings.
- 52 **Grouping of Carson City dollars:** ☆ 1878-CC MS-62. Lustrous with splashes of yellow and golden toning at the peripheries ☆ 1880-CC MS-60. Soft satiny gray surfaces ☆ 1882-CC MS-62. Brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1883-CC MS-63. Lustrous golden surfaces, minor spotting noted on both surfaces at the rim ☆ 1884-CC MS-62. Lustrous with pale golden brown toning at the peripheries ☆ 1885-CC MS-60 PL. Brilliant and reflective with lightly frosted devices ☆ 1890-CC AU-58. Lustrous with golden toning ☆ 1891-CC AU-58. Lustrous with hints of golden brown toning at the rims. (Total: 8 pieces)
- 53 **Grouping of Mint State dollars with focus on Carson City:** ☆ 1878-CC MS-61. Lustrous with a touch of golden toning at the rims ☆ 1882-CC (3). MS-63. Lustrous with splashes of rich golden brown toning at the date; MS-61. Lustrous with splashes of golden toning on both surfaces, AU-53. Splashes of golden and reddish gold on both surfaces ☆ 1883-CC MS-61. Satiny with slashes of pale golden toning on the reverse ☆ 1884-CC (3). MS-63. Lustrous with lightly frosted devices. MS-60 (2). Both with lustrous surfaces, one with splash of golden brown and blue at the date, the other with soft golden rose. (Total: 8 pieces)
- 54 **1878-S MS-65 DPL (NGC).** Bright and lustrous at the centers, with pale champagne halos at the rims. Frosty motifs and mirror fields form a dynamic cameo contrast.
- 55 **Quintette of branch mint dollars grading MS-65 (PCGS)** ☆ 1878-S. Soft pearl gray toning over lustrous surfaces ☆ 1881-S. Lustrous with dark crescent toning at the reverse rim ☆ 1882-S. Brilliant

and lustrous ☆ 1899-O. Brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1902-O. Lustrous with a whisper of gold toning at the rims. (Total: 5 pieces)

- 56 **Selection of Morgan dollars from various mints:** ☆ 1878-S MS-62. Whisper of golden gray ☆ 1879 MS-62. Lustrous with splashes of golden toning on both surfaces ☆ 1880 MS-61. Lustrous ☆ 1881 MS-63. Brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1882 MS-61. Brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1883 MS-61. Lustrous with a whisper of gold ☆ 1884-O MS-61. Lustrous with splashes of pale golden minute spotting noted on both surfaces ☆ 1885 MS-62. Lustrous with splashes of reddish brown ☆ 1886 MS-64. Soft golden rose at the peripheries ☆ 1887 MS-62. Lustrous ☆ 1888 AU-58. Lustrous ☆ 1889 MS-61. Lustrous with whispers of golden rose ☆ 1890 MS-62. Lustrous ☆ 1891 AU-55. ☆ 1892 Net VF-35 ☆ 1893 Net F-15 ☆ 1894-O Net EF-45 ☆ 1895-O VG-10 ☆ 1896 AU-58. Olive-gold toning at the peripheries ☆ 1897-S Net VF-35 ☆ 1898-O MS-63. Splashes of frost ☆ 1899 EF-40 ☆ 1900-S VF-35. ☆ 1901-S Net VF-25 ☆ 1902-O MS-61. Lustrous with a minor reverse spot ☆ 1903 Net MS-60 ☆ 1904-O MS-62. Brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1921-S Net EF-45. A few with minor problems but finer for sharpness. Housed in Capital plastic holder. (Total: 28 pieces)
- 57 **1879 MS-65 (NGC).** Satiny and highly lustrous, with golden halos at the rims. A satiny gem.
- 58 **1879-CC Large CC Over Small CC. MS-60.** Brilliant surfaces with some abrasions, etc., characteristic of this grade level. The reverse, if graded separately, would merit a point or two higher. Among early Carson City dollars in the dollars 1878-1885 in the Morgan series, the 1879-CC is far and away the rarest.

Gem 1879-O Dollar



- 59 **1879-O MS-65 (NGC).** Brilliant with absolutely superb lustre and eye appeal. Full white and certain to please any Morgan dollar enthusiast.
In our opinion a very nice set of Morgan silver dollars can be put together by selecting MS-64 and MS-65 as a combined goal, and then one by one examining pieces needed for your collection. For the 1879-O requirement the present coin is far above average and will fill the need quite nicely.
- 60 **Grouping of silver dollars with branch mints coming to the fore:** ☆ 1879-O AU-55. Soft reddish gold toning on the reverse at the devices ☆ 1879-S 3rd Reverse. (2) MS-63. Lustrous with a splash of iridescent toning at the date; MS-61. Lustrous with splashes of soft reddish brown ☆ 1882-O AU-53. Splashes of golden toning on both surfaces ☆ 1883-O MS-62. Lustrous with golden toning and a splash of bluish gray on the reverse ☆ 1884-CC MS-60. Satiny golden gray surfaces ☆ 1885 MS-61. Lustrous with splashes of bright gold toning on the obverse and soft golden at the reverse periphery ☆ 1885-S MS-60. Lustrous with hints of golden gray toning ☆ 1894-O AU-53. Whisper of gold toning at the reverse periphery ☆ 1898-O (2). MS-63. Lustrous with soft lavender-rose highlights on the obverse and golden on the reverse, MS-62. Lustrous with a splash of toning at the date ☆ 1898-S MS-62. Golden at the peripheries ☆ 1899 MS-62. Satiny with an obverse toning spot ☆ 1902-S AU-58. Soft golden surfaces. (Total: 14 pieces)

- 61 **Selection of Morgan dollars way down yonder in New Orleans, a comprehensive collection:** 1 1879-O Net EF-45 1 1880-O Net AU-50 1 1881-O AU-55. Lustrous with splash of pale orange toning on the reverse and a minute toning spot on the obverse 1 1882-O AU-53. Lustrous 1 1883-O MS-63. Lustrous with golden toning at the obverse periphery and minute spotting noted 1 1884-O MS-62. Lustrous with just a hint of golden toning at the peripheries 1 1885-O MS-63. Lustrous with splashes of golden gray toning on both surfaces with soft golden toning at the peripheries 1 1886-O Net VF-35 1 1887-O AU-58. Soft golden gray surfaces 1 1888-O AU-50 1 1889-O AU-50 1 1890-O AU-50 1 1891-O AU-50 1 1892-O Net VF-25 1 1893-O Net F-15 1 1894-O AU-55. Lustrous 1 1895-O VF-30. Soft silver gray surfaces with no major marks or distractions 1 1896-O EF-45. Golden toning at the peripheries 1 1897-O AU-50. Splashes of golden brown at the peripheries 1 1898-O MS-63. Frosty lustre 1 1899-O MS-63. Brilliant and lustrous 1 1900-O MS-63. Lustrous with just a whisper of reddish gold at the peripheries 1 1901-O MS-62. Lustrous with a couple of minute spots noted on both surfaces 1 1902-O MS-61. Brilliant and lustrous 1 1903-O MS-63. Brilliant and lustrous 1 1904-O MS-62. Lustrous with soft golden toning at the peripheries. Housed in a Capital plastic holder. (Total: 26 pieces)
- 62 **Pair of Mint State certified dollars:** ☆ 1879-S 3rd Reverse. MS-66 (PCGS). Lustrous with a crescent of rich iridescent rainbow toning on the obverse, reverse is brilliant lustrous with splashes of pale gold ☆ 1881-S MS-67 (NGC). Brilliant and lustrous. A pair of popular issues in *extraordinary* preservation! (Total: 2 pieces)
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 63 **Quartette of dollars grading MS-66 (NGC):** ☆ 1879-S 3rd Reverse. Lustrous with splashes of gold, brown, magenta, and blue at the obverse rim with gold at the reverse rim ☆ 1882-S. Lustrous with lovely golden toning at the rims ☆ 1885. Lustrous with golden toning at the peripheries with a splash of blue on the obverse ☆ 1885-O. Gold toning at the rims. (Total: 4 pieces)
- 64 **Quartette of Mint State certified dollars:** ☆ 1879-S 3rd Reverse. MS-66 (NGC). Lustrous with golden rose toning at the peripheries ☆ 1882-S MS-66 (NGC). Lustrous with yellow gold toning at the rims ☆ 1885-O MS-66 (NGC). Lustrous with splashes of lavender toning at the obverse periphery ☆ 1902 MS-65 (PCGS). Mottled golden toning over lustrous surfaces. (Total: 4 pieces)
- 65 **Quartette of dollars grading MS-65 (NGC):** ☆ 1879-S 3rd Reverse. PL ☆ 1880-S DPL ☆ 1880-S PL ☆ 1882-CC PL. All with lightly frosted devices and delicate toning at the periphery. (Total: 4 pieces)
- 66 **Grouping of high-quality dollars grading MS-65:** ☆ 1879-S 3rd Reverse. (PCGS) ☆ 1880-S (PCGS) ☆ 1882-S (NGC) ☆ 1886 (PCGS) ☆ 1887 (PCGS). Splash of reddish gold and blue at the obverse rim ☆ 1904-O (PCGS) ☆ 1925 (PCGS). All are brilliant and lustrous, except where noted. (Total: 7 pieces)
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 67 **Grouping of dollars grading MS-65 (PCGS):** ☆ 1879-S 3rd Reverse. (2) ☆ 1881-S ☆ 1885-O ☆ 1887 ☆ 1898-O ☆ 1923. Mostly brilliant and lustrous with a few having just a whisper of delicate toning. A very attractive grouping, a hallmark of the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection, which contains many lovely silver coins as well as gold issues. (Total: 7 pieces)
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 68 **Quartette of certified MS-65 dollars:** ☆ 1879-S 3rd Reverse. (PCGS). Satiny lustre ☆ 1880-S PL (PCGS). Reflective with a touch of gold at the peripheries and lightly frosted devices ☆ 1880-S (PCGS). Lustrous with a toning spot noted in the left obverse field ☆ 1902 (NGC). Lustrous with splashes of soft golden orange toning at the rims. (Total: 4 pieces)
- 69 **Selection of silver dollars grading MS-65 (PCGS):** ☆ 1879-S. 3rd Reverse. Lustrous with hints of lightly frosted devices ☆ 1880-S. Hints of golden rose highlights ☆ 1881-S. Lustrous soft golden gray surfaces ☆ 1884-O. Lustrous with soft golden toning on the reverse ☆ 1885-O. Lustrous with minute spotting noted under magnification ☆ 1886. Brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1887. Soft golden gray toning over lustrous surfaces ☆ 1923. Lustrous golden surfaces with a few water marks noted. Again, the overall *quality* is extremely high. Appropriate bids are encouraged! (Total: 8 pieces)
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 70 **Grouping of Morgan dollars grading MS-65 (PCGS):** ☆ 1879-S 3rd Reverse. Brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1880-S. Brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1881-S. Splashes of soft golden gray on both surfaces ☆ 1884-O. Just a hint of golden toning ☆ 1885. Satiny with splashes of gold at the reverse rim ☆ 1886. Brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1898-O. Satiny with a few minute spots noted on the obverse under magnification ☆ 1900-O. Satiny golden surfaces with a few minute spots noted under magnification. A high quality group worthy of strong bidding competition. (Total: 8 pieces)
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 71 **Grouping of MS-65 PCGS dollars:** ☆ 1879-S 3rd Reverse. Brilliant and lustrous with lightly frosted devices ☆ 1880-S. Lustrous with whispers of soft golden gray toning ☆ 1884-O. Satiny with hints of rose-gold on both surfaces ☆ 1885-O. Satiny with some of the devices lightly frosted ☆ 1887. Satiny lustre ☆ 1899-O. Brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1922. Soft golden toning over lustrous surfaces with a couple of toning spots noted on the obverse ☆ 1923. Lustrous soft golden surfaces. A notable group of high grade popular Morgan dollar issues. (Total: 8 pieces)
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 72 **Grouping of PCGS MS-65 dollars:** ☆ 1879-S 3rd Reverse. Lustrous ☆ 1880-S. Lustrous with flecks of golden toning on the obverse ☆ 1881-S. Satiny ☆ 1884-O. Soft golden gray on the obverse with lustrous golden toning on the reverse ☆ 1886. Satiny lustre ☆ 1887. Satiny lustre ☆ 1923. Lustrous golden surfaces. Splendid quality awaits the successful bidder. (Total: 7 pieces)
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 73 **Half dozen certified dollars grading MS-65:** ☆ 1879-S 3rd Reverse. (PCGS). Lustrous and frosty with splashes of golden toning at the obverse rim ☆ 1880-S (PCGS). Lustrous with splashes of soft golden brown ☆ 1881-S (PCGS). Lustrous golden rose with splashes of gold at the rim on the obverse, reverse is brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1884-O (PCGS). Lustrous golden obverse surface with just a hint of gold on the reverse ☆ 1886 (PCGS). Brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1887 (NGC). Nearly full mint brilliance with just a touch of gold at the rims. (Total: 6 pieces)
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 74 **Quintette of dollars grading MS-65 (PCGS):** ☆ 1879-S 3rd Reverse. Brilliant and lustrous with the devices lightly frosted ☆ 1880-S. Lustrous with just a hint of golden toning on both surfaces ☆ 1881-S. Bright gold toning on the obverse over lustrous surfaces ☆ 1886. Brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1887. Lustrous with splashes of pale lavender and rose on the obverse with just a touch of golden toning on the reverse rim. (Total: 5 pieces)
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 75 **Half dozen MS-65 (PCGS) dollars:** ☆ 1879-S 3rd Reverse. (4). Each is brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1881-S. Lustrous with golden toning at the rims ☆ 1887. Lustrous. (Total: 6 pieces)
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.

- 76 Half dozen dollars grading MS-65 (PCGS): ☆ 1879-S 3rd Reverse. Lustrous with delicate golden toning on the obverse ☆ 1880-S. Lustrous with yellow gold at the obverse rim, the reverse with splashes of mottled golden gray ☆ 1884-O. Lustrous with lightly frosted devices and a minor toning spot on the reverse is noted ☆ 1886. Brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1887. Rich iridescent magenta, sunset orange, and blue on the obverse with a touch of gold at the reverse rim ☆ 1923. Lustrous golden surfaces. (Total: 6 pieces)
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 77 **Selection of Mint State dollars:** ☆ 1879-S 3rd Reverse. MS-63. Brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1880-S MS-64. Lustrous with lovely golden toning at the peripheries ☆ 1881-O MS-62. Lustrous with hints of golden toning on the obverse ☆ 1881-S MS-64. Brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1882-S MS-63. Brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1883 MS-64. Satiny lustre ☆ 1883-O MS-63. Satiny lustre with hints of soft golden gray toning ☆ 1884-CC MS-62. Lustrous with minute spotting noted ☆ 1884-O MS-633. Satiny lustre with splashes of soft golden brown on the reverse ☆ 1885 MS-62. Lustrous with splashes of golden toning at the obverse periphery ☆ 1885-O MS-63. Satiny ☆ 1887 MS-62. Faint mottled golden gray toning over both surfaces ☆ 1898-O MS-63. Brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1902-O. Lustrous with golden toning at the rims ☆ 1923 MS-64. Satiny with splashes of golden brown at the reverse periphery. (Total: 15 pieces)
- 78 **Grouping of Mint State dollars:** ☆ 1879-S 3rd Reverse. (2). MS-63. Lustrous, MS-62. Soft golden gray toning over both surfaces ☆ 1880-S MS-63. Lustrous with whispers of golden toning ☆ 1881-S (3). MS-62 (2). Brilliant and lustrous; MS-61. Splashes of faint golden frost ☆ 1882-S MS-62 (2). One with prooflike surfaces and a splash of golden toning at the reverse periphery; the other is semi-reflective ☆ 1883 MS-63. Satiny soft gray surfaces ☆ 1884-CC MS-62. Spot noted on both obverse and reverse ☆ 1885 MS-62. Rich pearl gray iridescence on the obverse over lustrous surfaces, the reverse with minute spotting noted under magnification ☆ 1885-O MS-62 (2). Spotting noted on both surfaces ☆ 1887 MS-62. Satiny with splashes of golden toning on the obverse ☆ 1902-O MS-62. Satiny ☆ 1923 (2) MS-63, MS-62. Minute spotting noted on both pieces. (Total: 17 pieces)
- 79 **Quintette of Carson City dollars:** ☆ 1880-CC MS-63. Lustrous with lightly frosted devices ☆ 1881-CC MS-63. Satiny surfaces ☆ 1883-CC MS-63. Satiny lustre ☆ 1885-CC MS-62. Lustrous with splashes of reddish gold at the peripheries ☆ 1891-CC MS-62. Delicate golden rose on both surfaces. (Total: 5 pieces)
- 80 Trio of Mint State dollars: ☆ 1880-CC MS-62. Frosty lustre with a pale golden orange striation on the obverse ☆ 1884-CC MS-61 (2). Both are lustrous. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 81 **Half dozen dollars:** ☆ 1880-CC Net AU-55 ☆ 1892-CC Net AU-50 ☆ 1894 Net VG-10 ☆ 1894-O AU-53 ☆ 1895-S VG-10 ☆ 1901-S AU-50. Each has been cleaned, but is finer for sharpness. (Total: 6 pieces)
- 82 1880-S MS-67 (NGC). A fully brilliant and highly lustrous gem.
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 83 **Quartette of dollars grading MS-66 (PCGS):** ☆ 1880-S ☆ 1881-S ☆ 1882-S ☆ 1886. Each is brilliant and lustrous. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 84 1880-S MS-66 (NGC). The piece is fully as prooflike as some that we have seen designated as "PL." Such designations are highly objective, and 10 different coins play side by side are apt to vary all over the place. In any event, the present coin is a very beautiful example, a true gem and, as noted, somewhat prooflike.
- 85 1880-S MS-66 (NGC). Another splendid 1880-S dollar, this also with some prooflike surface.
- 86 **1881 MS-65 PL (NGC).** Reflective fields and lightly frosted motifs exhibit a nuance of pale champagne toning. A hint of violet is seen on the reverse. Scarce so fine.
- 87 **Grouping of dollars** with each having been cleaned at one time: ☆ 1881-O Net AU-55 ☆ 1882-CC Net AU-58 ☆ 1883-CC Net MS-62 ☆ 1884-CC Net AU-53 (2) ☆ 1884-S Net EF-45 ☆ 1889-S Net AU-50 ☆ 1891-CC Net AU-53 ☆ 1891-CC Net AU-50 ☆ 1892 Net EF-45 ☆ 1902-S Net EF-45 ☆ 1903 Net AU-50 ☆ 1904-S Net F-15. All are finer for sharpness. (Total: 12 pieces)
- 88 1881-S MS-67 (NGC). Satiny, brilliant surfaces display strong lustre.
- 89 1881-S MS-66 (NGC). Sharply struck, lustrous, brilliant, just about everything else.
In our various commentaries we have said much about the numerical grading of Morgan silver dollars along with such aspects as planchet quality, die wear, and sharpness of strike, among other considerations. For many Morgan dollars a great deal of *cherry-picking* (a term popularized by Bill Fivaz and J.T. Stanton) is required, unless you are buying "numbers only." However, among Morgan dollars 1878-1921 there is one exception that can be bought with nearly complete assurance that a certified coin upon inspection will be found to be sharply struck and of "nice" appearance—and that is the 1881-S. Because these pieces are usually so attractive, and also because in high grades they are the most plentiful of all early Morgan dollars, we recommend the 1881-S as an ideal *introductory coin* for anyone contemplating the Morgan series.
- 90 1881-S MS-66 (NGC). Another nice 1881-S dollar, somewhat prooflike.
- 91 Grouping of certified dollars: ☆ 1881-S MS-65 (PCGS). Crescent shaped rainbow toning on the obverse, reverse is brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1882-S MS-63 (PCGS). Bright golden orange toning on the obverse with splashes of blue at the peripheries, reverse is lustrous with just a touch of golden toning at the peripheries ☆ 1884-CC MS-63 (PCGS). Lustrous with lightly frosted devices ☆ 1885 MS-63 (PCGS). Satiny lustre ☆ 1886 MS-62 (PCGS). Lustrous ☆ 1896 MS-63 (PCGS). Frosty with golden toning at the peripheries ☆ 1897 MS-63 (PCGS). Light golden surfaces ☆ 1903 MS-63 (PCGS). Brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1922 MS-64 (NGC). Brilliant and lustrous. (Total: 9 pieces)
- 92 **1882 Proof-62.** Lightly frosted motifs with deep mirror fields. A whisper of gold adorns the design high points.
- 93 **Trio of Carson City dollars grading MS-65 (PCGS):** ☆ 1882-CC ☆ 1883-CC ☆ 1884-CC. Each with lustrous and attractive surfaces. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 94 **Octette of silver dollars:** ☆ 1882-CC MS-60. Semi-prooflike surfaces with lightly frosted devices ☆ 1884-S Net AU-55 ☆ 1893 Net AU-50 ☆ 1893-O EF-45 ☆ 1894 EF-45 ☆ 1896-O AU-50 ☆ 1901 AU-50 ☆ 1928 AU-58. Soft golden gray surfaces. Finer for sharpness, with a few pieces having been cleaned, except where noted. (Total: 8 pieces)
- 95 Trio of branch mint dollars grading MS-66 (NGC): ☆ 1882-S. Splashes of pale lavender at the peripheries ☆ 1885-O (2). Both with satiny surfaces, one with yellow gold toning at the rims and one with a whisper of rose at the peripheries. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 96 **1883 MS-67 (NGC).** Satiny and brilliant at the centers, with rich golden toning at the rims. A lustrous gem.
- 97 **Grouping of Morgan dollars:** ☆ 1883-CC MS-63 ☆ 1883-O (2). MS-63, MS-61 ☆ 1884 MS-62 ☆ 1884-O MS-63 (2) ☆ 1884-CC MS-61 ☆ 1885 MS-63 ☆ 1885-O AU-58 ☆ 1887 (2) MS-63, MS-62 ☆ 1888 MS-62 ☆ 1889 AU-58 ☆ 1890 MS-62 ☆ 1896 MS-61 ☆ 1897-S MS-62 PL ☆ 1899-O MS-62 ☆ 1900-O MS-63 ☆ 1902-O MS-62 ☆ 1921 MS-63. Most are brilliant and lustrous with a few having delicate toning. (Total: 20 pieces)

- 98 Selection of dollars grading MS-64 (PCGS): ☆ 1883-O ☆ 1885-O ☆ 1886 DMPL ☆ 1896 ☆ 1900 ☆ 1901-O ☆ 1921-D. Mostly brilliant and lustrous with a few having delicate golden toning. (Total: 7 pieces)

Key 1883-S Mint State Dollar



- 99 **1883-S MS-64 (PCGS).** Lustrous and frosty with some slight hints of prooflike surface on the obverse. A pleasing coin at this grade level—embodying a decent strike, high numerical grade, and the all-important eye appeal. If the 1883-S—one of the key issues in the series—is on your want list in this grade, your search could well end here if you place a generous bid.
- 100 **Half dozen silver dollars:** ☆ 1883-S AU-55 ☆ 1892-CC AU-55 ☆ 1893 AU-53 ☆ 1894-S AU-55 (2) ☆ 1895-O F-12. Soft silver gray surfaces. All are lustrous with traces of very delicate toning. (Total: 6 pieces)

Dollars from the 1884-1898-O Years

- 101 **Grouping of dollars:** ☆ 1884 MS-61 ☆ 1884-CC MS-62 ☆ 1884-O MS-63 ☆ 1884-S Net AU-50; ☆ 1885 MS-62 ☆ 1885-CC MS-63 ☆ 1885-O MS-62 ☆ 1885-S MS-62 ☆ 1886 MS-64 ☆ 1886-O AU-58 ☆ 1886-S MS-62 ☆ 1887 MS-62 ☆ 1887-O MS-63 ☆ 1887-S AU-58 ☆ 1888 MS-61 ☆ 1888-O MS-62 ☆ 1888-O Doubled Die Obverse. ☆ 1888-S MS-62 ☆ 1889 MS-62 ☆ 1889-CC Net VF-25 ☆ 1889-O MS-62 ☆ 1889-S AU-58 ☆ 1890 Net MS-60 ☆ 1890-CC Net MS-60 ☆ 1890-S AU-58. Lustrous ☆ 1890-O AU-58. A couple of pieces with minor problems, finer for sharpness. Most are lustrous with a few having various degrees of soft golden orange toning. Housed in a Capital plastic holder. (Total: 25 pieces)

Although modern certification in plastic “slabs” have introduced the concept of third party grading and have engendered a great deal of satisfaction among many in the numismatic hobby, particularly newcomers, there is a loss, in our opinion, in that slabs, collectively arrayed, are not as nice to contemplate as are sets of coins all put together in a Capital or other plastic holder. Perhaps PCGS, NGC, and/or ANACS could make an arrangement with Capital whereby sets could be displayed in the old-fashioned and quite beautiful way, but still have an overall certification. Of course, all of this would mean a great deal of effort and also expense with the moving around and changing of plastic holders. However, we have found that collectors do not mind paying well for items that will attractively display their coins. Witness the great movement to have modern Washington quarters with state reverses certified at costs that are multiples of the value of the coins themselves. Similarly, in the field of stamps, it is not unusual for someone to pay a dollar for a beautiful album page on which to mount a few cents worth of stamps.

When visiting a nicely curated collection of minerals, or a fine display of jewelry, one is taken with the thought that beautiful surroundings, containers, and other accoutrements vastly highlight the desirability of the specimen in question. In numismatics, certification holders are more “industrial” than “artistic” at present. Perhaps opportunities beckon?

- 102 **1884-O MS-65 DMPL (PCGS).** Brilliant with delicate champagne toning.

A beauty part of collecting Morgan dollars is that coins of superb quality—this being an example—can be obtained in the hundreds of dollars or the low thousands of dollars, and side by side in an album or cabinet they are beautiful to behold. For most other 19th-century series such a gathering of gem specimens is simply not possible at these price levels.

- 103 **1885 MS-65 PL (PCGS).** Reverse is white and brilliant, light champagne toning on the obverse with multicolored highlights.
- 104 **1885-O MS-67 (NGC).** A frosty, satiny gem of the highest order. A whisper of pale golden toning and strong cartwheel lustre add immeasurably to the overall appeal of this distinctive gem.
- 105 **Roll of 1885-O dollars** grading MS-63 or finer. All are lustrous with a few having delicate toning. (Total: 20 pieces)
- 106 **Quartette of NGC dollars:** ☆ 1886 MS-66 ☆ 1887 MS-66 ☆ 1898-O MS-65 ☆ 1923 MS-65. Lustrous golden surfaces. Each with satiny lustre except where noted. (Total: 4 pieces)
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 107 **1886-S MS-63 DPL (NGC).** Brilliant with a tinge of golden and gunmetal blue on the rims. A high grade specimen of this Morgan dollar, one of the varieties of intermediate scarcity among San Francisco issues of the type.

Marvelous 1888-O Dollar Memorable Quality



- 108 **1888-O MS-66 (PCGS).** A truly memorable specimen of the 1888-O, this coin has it all—great strike (not an insignificant consideration for this variety), lots of lustre on obverse and reverse, and a very generous measure of old-fashioned eye appeal. My gosh, even the most studied numismatic specialist in the Morgan dollar series would be delighted to own this! Lucky you, if your bid is successful!

Remarkable Premium 1888-S Dollar



- 109 **1888-S MS-65 (PCGS).** A splendid specimen, quite possibly from an old-time collection, displaying golden, electric blue, and other attractive toning over deeply lustrous surfaces. A premium quality example of this popular San Francisco dollar. The vast majority of pieces in numismatic hands today are “white” or brilliant, and to find an attractively toned piece such as this takes a lot of searching.



- 110 **1889 Proof-63.** Brilliant with frosted “cameo” motifs. A lovely and rare specimen at this grade level.

- 111 Trio of branch mint dollars grading MS-63 (PCGS): ☆ 1889-S. Brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1891-CC. Whisper of pearl gray toning over lustrous surfaces ☆ 1897-S PL. Reflective with the obverse devices lightly frosted. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 112 Pair of Mint State dollars: ☆ 1890-CC MS-61. Lustrous with splashes of soft golden brown spots noted on both surfaces ☆ 1891-CC MS-62. Lovely soft golden orange toning on the obverse with rose and golden toning on the reverse. (Total: 2 pieces)

Gem Proof 1892 Dollar



- 113 **1892 Proof-65 (NGC).** Brilliant surfaces with delicate champagne toning. A high grade example of an issue of which Proof survivors number only in the hundreds, and of these there are not many that come up to the Proof-65 designation. An important opportunity for the specialist.

In the era in which this piece was struck, very few numismatists collected Morgan dollars by date sequence. A dollar was a day’s pay for some (such as millworkers in New England, who in any event were not likely to buy such items) and at least a few hours’ pay for many—including numismatists. Proof Morgan dollars were automatically included with silver sets of the year, and upon arrival many such coins were simply turned in for face value to release their purchasing power. We estimate that perhaps a third of all Proofs in the Morgan series were lost in this manner.

In a somewhat similar vein, the late B. Max Mehl related to us that he was once on a train trip and ordered lunch in the dining car, but forgot to bring pocket change with him, although he did have a few coins in a satchel. He took out a Proof Barber half dollar and tendered it for payment and tip!



- 114 **1892 Proof-63.** Brilliant surfaces. Well struck and attractive. The 1892 is fairly scarce in high grade circulation strike form, thus making a Proof such as this all the more desirable.

- 115 **1892-CC MS-61.** Bright and lustrous. A few stray obverse marks account for our conservative grade.

Filled 2 in date.

- 116 **1893-O Net AU-50;** sharpness of AU-53, but with faint obverse scratches. Still lustrous and much finer than the description implies.

- 117 **1893-S VG-10.** A nice “basic” specimen of the most desired of all San Francisco Mint Morgan dollars. Every collection needs one, and the present piece should be quite affordable.

- 118 **1894 Net AU-53;** sharpness of AU-55, but very lightly cleaned. Still, a pleasing example of this scarce and popular Philadelphia Mint issue.

- 119 **1894-S MS-61.** Brilliant and highly lustrous, and a fine and attractive coin for the grade. Somewhat prooflike on the reverse.

- 120 **1896 MS-66 (PCGS).** This coin is what a European numismatist might call FDC, or, *fleur de coin*, in a word, *immaculate*. We recall a number of years ago that New Netherlands Coin Company inserted the FDC grade matter-of-factly in one of its listings, prompting someone to ask: “What does it mean? First Day Condition?” This seemed to be as appropriate of a description as could be imagined!



- 121 **1896-O MS-62 (NGC).** Brilliant with very slightly reflective surfaces. *Well struck*, which alone makes this a super-desirable piece. Take our word for it if you will—this is fully equal to some on the market graded MS-63 and possibly even some graded MS-64 when one considers the *excellent strike* and overall appearance. A *winner* that is worthy of a very strong bid. Go for it, and you will be delighted if you are successful.

- 122 **1898 MS-65 DMPL (PCGS).** Lightly frosted motifs and mirrored fields display a hint of pale champagne toning.

Panorama of Morgan Dollars 1898-1921

- 123 **Selection of dollars:** ☆ 1898-O Net MS-60 ☆ 1898-S Net AU-50 ☆ 1899 Net AU-53 ☆ 1899-O Net MS-62 ☆ 1899-S Net AU-58 ☆ 1900 Net MS-61 ☆ 1900-O MS-61. Brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1900-S Net MS-60 ☆ 1901 Net EF-45 ☆ 1901-O MS-63. Prooflike obverse, reverse is lustrous with a splash of pale frosty gold toning ☆ 1901-S Net AU-50 ☆ 1902 MS-62. Soft mottled reddish orange over lustrous surfaces ☆ 1902-O Net MS-61 ☆ 1902-S MS-61. Lustrous ☆ 1903 MS-63. Prooflike obverse, reverse is lustrous with a splash of pale frosty gold toning ☆ 1903-O MS-63. Lustrous with a minute spot noted on the reverse ☆ 1903-S Net VF-20 ☆ 1904 AU-58. Soft golden orange at the obverse periphery with golden gray at the reverse periphery. ☆ 1904-O MS-61. Satiny ☆ 1904-S Net AU-50 ☆ 1921 MS-61. Satiny golden surfaces ☆ 1921-D AU-58. Lustrous ☆ 1921-S Net AU-58. A few with minor problems, finer for sharpness. Housed in a Capital plastic holder. (Total: 23 pieces)
- 124 **1899 MS-65 PL (PCGS).** Reflective pale golden surfaces.
- 125 **1900-S MS-63 DMPL (PCGS).** Reflective fields and lightly frosted motifs are brilliant save for a whisper of pale rose at the rims. Not an easy branch mint issue to locate in DMPL condition.
- 126 **1902 MS-65 PL (NGC).** Reflective surfaces display a high degree of lustre and a light champagne sheen.
- 127 **1903 MS-66 (NGC).** Brilliant with satiny or almost *creamy* lustre, the Morgan dollar equivalent of Bo Derek!

Highly Important 1904-S Dollar



- 128 **1904-S MS-63 (NGC).** Lustrous surfaces, somewhat satiny, with delicate toning. The 1904-S is one of the most important varieties in Mint State in the Morgan series, in the top 20% of key issues. The present coin beckons with an attractive combination of high grade and reasonably low price, probably somewhere in the range of \$1,500 to \$2,200.

Gem Uncirculated 1921 Peace \$1



- 129 **1921 Peace, MS-65.** A satiny and frosty example of this popular High Relief issue from the first date of the Peace dollar series. A nuance of pale gold iridescence graces the lustrous surfaces.

Nicely struck in all places save for the direct center of the obverse, which is typically weak on this issue. Well above average in quality and strike, probably in the top 10% of those still in existence. Worthy of a premium bid.

From our sale of the Fred and Ward Collections, November 1995, Lot 3671.

- 130 **1922-S MS-65 (NGC).** A stunning gem Peace dollar. The surfaces are highly lustrous and lightly reflective with a whisper of pale champagne toning. A glory to view.
- 131 **1922-S MS-65 (NGC).** Lustrous and brilliant with just a hint of toning. One of the harder to find Peace dollars at this grade level, a key issue so fine.
- 132 **1923 MS-66 (NGC).** Brilliant and lustrous. Shall we say *FDC*?
- 133 **1924-S MS-64 (NGC).** Pale champagne highlights on satiny, lustrous surfaces.

Superb Gem 1926-S Dollar



- 134 **1926-S MS-66 (NGC).** Brilliant with a hint of gold toning at the rim. Although 1926-S Peace silver dollars are encountered with some regularity in the grade of MS-65 or even MS-66, not many can hold a candle to the present piece in terms of *eye appeal*.
- 135 **1928-S MS-64 (NGC).** Lustrous with deep golden highlights.
- 136 **1935 MS-65 (NGC).** Brilliant with delicate champagne toning. As pretty as a picture! Last of the collectable silver dollars.

We read with interest an article by David Ganz recently in which he was discussing the legality of owning certain United States coins, concentrating on the 1974 aluminum strike of the Lincoln cent, but also mentioning others. The 1964-D Peace silver dollar comes to mind. If someone has one today—and we have never seen one personally and are not sure that any exist—can it or can it not be legally held?

TRADE DOLLARS



- 137 **1873 Proof-61.** Light silver to steel blue. Some marks including a thin scratch on the reverse keep this from a higher grade. Sharply struck, and perennially desirable as the first date of this highly fascinating series.

- 138 **1873-S MS-60, or finer.** Sharply struck, lustrous, and exceedingly attractive. Some splashes of light gold toning accent both obverse and reverse. A really dandy coin for the date, variety, and grade.

To strike these pieces new presses were ordered from Morgan & Orr and sent to San Francisco and to Carson City. Today in 2001 an example of one of these powerful presses, beautiful to behold, can be seen at the entryway to the American Numismatic Association Museum, 818 North Cascade Avenue, Colorado Springs.



- 139 **1874 Proof-60.** Mostly brilliant with some light golden toning around the border. Believed to be the second rarest (after 1873) Proof trade dollar in the 1873-1883 range. A very attractive piece overall, considering the grade designation, and one that will be a worthwhile addition to a basic collection.



- 140 **1874-CC MS-61.** Brilliant and lustrous with a hint of toning. Popular Carson City issue.



- 141 **1874-S MS-63 (NGC).** Bright "white" surfaces with finely-grained satiny or creamy lustre. A splendid example that will look just right in a specialized collection or a type set. Trade dollars are not often found this choice.

- 142 Pair of trade dollars: ☆ 1874-S Net AU-58 ☆ 1876-S Type II/II. Net AU-50. Both are finer for sharpness, but have been cleaned at one time. (Total: 2 pieces)

- 143 Grouping of trade dollars with minor problems: ☆ 1874-S Net EF-45 ☆ 1876 Net VG-8 ☆ 1877 Net VG-10 ☆ 1877-S Net VG-10 ☆ 1878-S Net VG-10 (2). Each is finer for sharpness. (Total: 6 pieces)

- 144 **1875-CC Type I/I. MS-61.** Satiny lustrous fields with light gray and golden toning. Nicely struck, a splendid example.

- 145 **1875-CC Type I/I. AU-58.** Brilliant with most original lustre still remaining. A very choice AU coin, one that "looks Uncirculated," as they used to say! Seriously, the piece is quite beautiful.

- 146 Quartette of branch mint trade dollars with minor problem: ☆ 1875-CC Net EF-45 ☆ 1875-S Net AU-50 ☆ 1876-S Net AU-50 ☆ 1878-S Net AU-53. Each has been cleaned at one time, finer for sharpness. (Total: 4 pieces)

- 147 **1875-S Type I/I. MS-62.** Satiny and highly lustrous, with rich gold, violet, and peach iridescence. A hint of striking weakness is noted at the eagle's leg on the reverse. Still quite pleasing for the grade.

- 148 **1875-S Type I/I. Net EF-45;** sharpness of AU-53, lightly cleaned long ago. Some light obverse scratches are noted.

- 149 **1876 Type II/II. MS-61 PL.** Mostly brilliant surfaces with tinges of gold toning. One of the most prooflike circulation strikes we have ever seen.

- 150 **1876-CC Type I/II. AU-58.** Much original lustre still remains. A nice example of one of the more elusive varieties in the trade dollar series.

- 151 **1876-S Type I/I. AU-55.** Highly lustrous and frosty. A splendid specimen at this grade level. Trade dollars of this quality offer "a lot of coin for the money," in our opinion.

Key 1878-CC Trade Dollar



- 152 **1878-CC Net AU-55, or finer.** Sharply struck, with most lustre, and very pleasing overall, although lightly cleaned in the past—not that everyone would notice.

In terms of availability in AU preservation, the 1871-CC is far and away the rarest of all circulation strike trade dollars. Indeed, 1878-CC in general can be denominated a *rarity*, especially in contrast to all of the other circulation issues which are relatively plentiful in comparison. Thus, the 1878-CC stands out as a key issue and has an especially strong demand. We expect that the present coin will attract much attention, deservedly so. It is quite attractive, as even a quick in-person inspection will verify.



- 153 **1879 Proof-62.** Brilliant. A nice example of this Proof-only issue, a coin which has been in demand for over a century. Nothing beats the appeal of low mintage!

GOLD DOLLARS



- 154 1880 Proof-60. A candidate for Proof-63 for sure, *except* for a scratch on the obverse near the knee. Brilliant and attractive overall. Highly prized Proof-only date.



- 155 1881 Proof-55. Mostly brilliant. Prooflike surface with hairlines and on the reverse a small edge ding. Desirable for filling the *date* in a trade dollar series, a coin that is quite rare, but which will sell for just a fraction of a gem example.



- 156 1882 Proof-62. A splendid specimen with light gray toning over mirror surfaces. A delightful example of this Proof-only issue, a numismatic classic in its own right.

Gem 1849 Gold \$1

The Bass Specimen

Close Wreath



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 157 1849 Close Wreath. MS-65 (PCGS). As the pedigree indicates, this piece by now is a fine "friend," and we are pleased to welcome it back again! This reminds us of the story told by Abe Kosoff about a Panama-Pacific \$50 coin, which, if we recall, he handled five or six times, making a profit each time, almost an annuity!

The present specimen is a delightful gem with frosty yellow gold lustre and essentially pristine surfaces. Nicely struck, with sharp and clear design motifs on both sides. An exquisite example of the design type, certainly among the most pleasing specimens we have handled in recent memory. A truly appealing coin from both physical and aesthetic viewpoints.

PCGS Population: 5; 3 finer (MS-66).

This is Breen's Heavy Date variety, perhaps the most common of all 1849 gold dollar varieties. However, none are common in gem Mint State condition.

Over a period of time we hope to replace in our catalogues the standard terminology "Closed Wreath" with the more appropriate, and numismatically traditional (in catalogues of decades ago), "Close Wreath." The wreath is itself not at all closed, but, instead, simply has on this variety, the tips closer together than on the "Open Wreath" style. Similarly, we are endeavoring over a period of time to phase out Walter Breen's term *business strike* with what seems to us to be more appropriate, *circulation strike*.

From our sale of Robert W. Schwan Collection, October 2000, Lot 2077. Previously from our sale of the Harry W. Bass, Jr. Collection, October 1999, Lot 20; purchased from the Goliad Corporation.

Landmark Gem 1850 Gold Dollar

Rarity of the Philadelphia Type I Series



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 158 1850 MS-66 (NGC). Sharply struck with satiny lustre. Blended medium and light yellow gold. It has been our experience—and we would be pleased to back this up with ample historical and numismatic verification to the successful bidder—that the 1850 is far and away the rarest of the Philadelphia dates among the Type I gold dollar, with, really, not even a close second! Over a period of decades many numismatists specializing in gold dollars have had to settle for a worn piece of this particular date. The very rarity and elusive character of the 1850 in gem Mint State have played against its publicity, for so few exist that they have not been publicized. However, fair warning! If you want one, it may be a long

time until the likes of this occurs elsewhere. If we were collecting gold dollars it would be full speed ahead with our bid.

Note: If the successful bidder on this lot would like some information concerning the 1850 gold dollar and its place in numismatic history, a note to the editor (QDB) will bring the same—with our complements.

- 159 **Trio of gold dollar types:** ☆ 1851 Type I. MS-61. Lustrous ☆ 1855 Type II. EF-45. Yellow surfaces ☆ 1873 Open 3. Type III. AU-58. Lustrous yellow surfaces. (Total: 3 pieces)

Impressive 1854 Type II Gold \$1



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 160 **1854 Type II. MS-63 (PCGS).** This is an outstanding example of the first year of issue of the small Indian Head design created by James Longacre. Brilliant and frosty greenish gold lustre with very lightly abraded surfaces, consistent with the grade. Very sharply struck with bold central details, including the high points of the hair over Liberty's forehead, and the digit 8 in the date which is almost always weak. This was a very short-lived design type, struck only from late 1854 through 1856. Poor striking characteristics were the main factor in discontinuing this design.

Peripheral die rust is present on the obverse. Otherwise, perfect dies without the often seen clash marks.

- 161 **Pair of gold dollars grading EF-45:** ☆ 1854 Type II. Soft red-gold surfaces with some mint lustre remaining ☆ 1873 Open 3. Lustrous with reddish toning at the peripheries. (Total: 2 pieces)

Mint State 1855-O Gold Dollar



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 162 **1855-O MS-62 (NGC).** Very well struck for this or any other Type II gold dollar, with excellent definition of feathers in the plumes, decent hair strands, and nice veining of the reverse leaves. The date 1855 is lighter at the second and fourth digits and there is some lightness at LL (DOLLAR). The coin is lustrous and deeply frosty, quite attractive, and all in all a thoroughly excellent representative of an issue which is scarcely ever seen in a grade such as this. We expect that gold dollar specialists will sit up and take notice!

The mintage of the 1855-O gold dollar amounted to 55,000 pieces, nearly all of which slipped into circulation. Today we estimate that perhaps 40 to 60 exist, few enough to make the issue a rarity, but a sufficient number that there is a realistic expectation—as now—to acquire one. Contrast this with our estimate of the Philadelphia Mint version of the same gold dollar, some 1,100 to 1,500 Mint State pieces in existence, and the importance of the present piece is highlighted.

While the present coin can stand on its own in terms of its desirability as a scarce mintmark, if we were contemplating its purchase we might consider it for inclusion in a type set—as it is far above average in its sharpness of strike, has a nice “personality” in terms of overall appearance, and while much rarer than its Philadelphia Mint counterpart, sells at an advance not reflecting this incremental degree of elusivity.

Fantastic Gem 1860 Gold Dollar

Among Finest Known



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 163 **1860 Proof-66 (PCGS).** Fewer than 20 specimens are believed to exist of the 1860 Proof gold dollar, of which this stands high in terms of quality. The piece is well struck in rich deep yellow gold, accented by a tiny area of orange above the R (DOLLAR). A landmark coin, a find for the connoisseur and specialist. A strong bid is recommended.

PCGS Population: 2; none finer.

In general, the only gem Proof gold dollars typically available are those in the 1880s, save the 1889 which is mysteriously elusive (apparently, the mintage figure is wrong or else they were not all distributed or else there is another explanation). Pieces of the 1870s are very rare, with some dates recording a mintage of only 20 coins. Before then the issues are even scarcer in terms of availability, although mintage figures vary. Prior to 1860, Proof dollars are available on a catch-as-catch-can basis—here and there, now and then. It is reasonable to suggest that anyone endeavoring to form a set of Proof Type II gold dollars might well set aside at least a decade, possibly two or three, to accomplish the task. The glittering superb gem 1860 offered here will help.

1866 Proof Gold \$1 Treasure

American Numismatic Landmark



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 164 **1866 Proof-66 (PCGS).** A superb specimen, well struck in rich light yellow gold, frosted or “cameo” motifs as seen on Proofs of this decade. Extant specimens of this or close quality can be counted on the fingers of one hand with a finger or two leftover. Similar to the superb gem Proof 1860 earlier offered, this 1866 represents a fantastic opportunity. Indeed, the opportunity to buy it may well be more important than the price paid—as one can always have money (assuming success in financial or professional endeavors), but one cannot always have superb gem Proof 1866 gold dollars, no matter how much money is on hand.

PCGS Population: 6; 1 finer (Proof-67).

- 165 **1883 MS-64 (PCGS).** A delightful specimen, sharply struck, and with a tremendous amount of visual appeal—deeply frosty with rich orange-gold color. A premium coin!

Choice Proof 1886 Gold Dollar



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 166 **1886 Proof-63 (PCGS).** This choice Proof has attractive cameo contrast with mirrored light yellow gold surfaces. Very lightly abraded fields with several tiny lint marks, the latter as struck.

The recorded mintage of Proofs exceeded 1,000 pieces, typical of production in the 1880s when gold dollars were a great fad not only among numismatists but among the public in general. Many more gold dollars were struck in Proof format than of higher denomination gold coins. It seems that the majority of these went into non-numismatic hands, and later many were incorporated into jewelry or simply lost or spent. Today, Proofs of any date in the 1880s can be called *rare*.

- 167 **1888 MS-63.** Lustrous light yellow gold with a hint of green. Very faint orange toning is present, along with minor coppery toning spots. Minor scratches are visible below the wreath, an attempt to remove a tiny spot.

Unforgettable Gem 1889 Gold \$1



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 168 **1889 MS-67 (NGC).** An unforgettable specimen, lustrous, brilliant, beautiful—and significant of the last year of the gold dollar series. What a coin!

QUARTER EAGLES

Important 1834 With Motto \$2.50

A Key to the Series



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 169 **1834 Breen-6137. With Motto. E PLURIBUS UNUM. EF-45 (PCGS).** Light yellow gold, somewhat prooflike (as are all). The early type, struck before June 28, 1834, with motto E PLURIBUS UNUM on a band above the eagle's head.

Of all dates of quarter eagles in this era, the 1834 With Motto takes the laurels for absolute rarity. In fact, years ago the theory was advanced that none were released at all, simply because numismatists couldn't find them! Today the population is in the Rarity-6 (13 to 30) range. Generally, examples come to market only when great collections are sold.

It is not widely known that gold coins did not circulate in the United States from the early 1820s through the summer of 1834. Such pieces were made for the export trade, and generally in small quantities. They were not available at the mint or at banks at par, but only by paying the metallic value for them. The needs of circulation were filled by silver coins, particularly the Capped Bust half dollars, and to an even greater extent by a virtual flood of paper money, most issued by state-chartered banks.

The Act of June 28, 1834, lowered the authorized weight of gold coins, after which time the new issues became worth slightly less than face value, and for the first time in a generation new quarter eagles and half eagles (joined by \$10 pieces in 1838) were seen in general circulation—a situation which continued until December 1861 (at which time the uncertain unlook of the Civil War prompted hoarding, and in the East and Midwest, gold coins were not seen again until December 1879).

The leading force behind the Act of June 28, 1834, was Thomas Hart Benton, senator from Missouri, whose winsome daughter Jessie was captivated by the dashing spirit of John Fremont, "The Great Pathfinder," explorer of the West, who took her hand in marriage, apparently against her parents' wishes.

Benton, whose nickname was "Old Bullion," was a "hard money man," and in his senatorial pay envelope he demanded gold coins—meaning, in 1834 that he was paid in quarter eagles and half eagles! Benton was also an advocate of Dr. Lewis Feuchtwanger's 1837 proposal to use Feuchtwanger's Composition, a variety of German silver, in coinage, and wrote to the Director of the Mint endorsing the idea. However, at the Mint certain assays were performed, and it was deemed that the alloy was not of consistent proportions and thus not acceptable for coinage. Feuchtwanger went ahead on his own and produced many one-cent pieces for circulation, where they served well during the Panic of 1837 when many federal coins disappeared.

Of all legislative figures of the first half of the 19th century, Thomas Hart Benton stands the tallest. The rarity of the present 1834 quarter eagle without motto is directly his legacy—production of this denomination was cut short in the year, thus producing fewer than might have normally been the case.

Eye-Catching 1834 Quarter Eagle

Classic Head Style



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 170 **1834 Breen-6138. MS-63 (PCGS).** Somewhat prooflike on obverse and reverse. Bright yellow gold. Fairly well struck with good definition in all areas, some slight lightness in the hair above the ear. A coin with a great deal of eye appeal, a specimen that will answer the call for the first year of issue of the Classic Head design (minted 1834-1839) or simply for a nice example of the date.

Splendid Proof 1836 \$2.50 Rarity

Pittman Catalogue Pedigree



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 171 **1836 Proof-64 Cameo (NGC).** From the splendid cabinet of John Pittman, brought to auction in May of 1998, there catalogued by David W. Akers as follows (excerpted):

1836, Proof, nearly in the Choice category. . . flashy and very attractive. The fields are deeply mirrorlike and they have some minor marks and hairlines, as well as an abrasion between the 6th star and the headband. The coin is softly struck on the hair curls around the face and the corresponding area on the reverse, namely the junction of the shield and the eagle's left wing. Evidence of considerable die lapping is noticeable, especially on the lower reverse where the end of the stem of the olive branch is detached, as is the berry on the branch; the berry is now separated into two small parts in the field. Also, the denticles below the denomination and extending out both left and right are small, weak and very widely separated with a mirror surface between individual denticles. The coin has a very attractive rich medium yellow gold color. John McCloskey, noted numismatic researcher and an expert on varieties of the Classic Head quarter eagles, had the following

to say about this coin in a letter to me dated December 1, 1996: "The obverse of this coin does not match that of any other piece of this date that I have seen. The obverse is identified by the fancy 8 in the date, the 1st star being relatively close to the bust and the 6th star being far from the headband. The reverse is easily identified by the gap between AM in AMERICA. This may be a Proof-only variety as I have never seen this variety as a business strike." JJP purchased this coin from Numismatic Gallery's renowned 'Memorable' sale, 3/2/48, Lot 97, for \$45.

To the best of my knowledge, only the following five Proof 1836 quarter eagles are known.

1. National Numismatic Collection, Smithsonian Institution. Head of 1835.

2. John Jay Pittman, the specimen offered here; "Memorable":97; "World's Greatest Collection":103.

3. Harry W. Bass, Mr.; Louis Eliasberg:103; John H. Clapp; William H. Woodin:956; John G. Mills:530; Lorin G. Parmelee:1055. Head of 1837.

4. Brian Hendelson. Part of an original complete 1836 Proof set which included the two gold coins. Owned by the same family in the Philadelphia area since the year of issue. Head of 1835.

5. New York dealer; Stack's 55th Anniversary sale:1674; Abe Kosoff; Jerome Kern:26; Col. E.H.R. Green. Head of 1835.

With respect to varieties, we have a most interesting and unusual situation here. Although there are only five Proofs known, they represent three different varieties! Numbers 1, 4, and 5 above are the same variety, but numbers 2 and 3 are different from them and different from each other.

Often when coins are sold they stay off the market for a long time, sometimes years, other times decades, still other times seemingly forever. How fortunate we are that this lovely piece has made a reprise. If you missed it the first time around, here is a second chance. It is as lovely and rare as ever.

NGC Census: 2; 4 finer (Proof-66 finest).

From the John Jay Pittman Collection.

Lustrous 1836 Quarter Eagle



- 172 1836 Breen-6143. Head of 1835. MS-62 (NGC). Brilliant and lustrous, a very attractive example. Lightly struck at the center of the obverse, not unusual for the type and date. The stars around the periphery are very sharp, and the dentils are excellently defined. The reverse is above average in sharpness, and there is some lightness at the edge of the shield, but excellent detail elsewhere. A satisfying example of the date, type, and grade.

This particular style is the *Head of 1835*, one of several portrait variations of the year, no doubt by Christian Gobrecht, who at the time was second engraver at the Mint. Portrait changes occurred in other series as well, most notably the one-cent pieces of 1836-1839, with emphasis on 1839.

- 173 1836 Breen-6143. AU-58 (NGC). A high degree of lustre graces the brilliant golden surfaces of this popular issue.

Obverse die cracked from rim above sixth star, across Liberty's hair, then to the rim between the final two stars.

Mint State 1839-D \$2.50

Rarity So Fine



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 174 1839-D MS-61 (NGC). Light yellow gold. Some friction in the fields. Not a gem, and not close to it, but still very hard to find in this grade. Probably no more than a dozen or so equal pieces come on the market during a given decade. Examine it and conclude for yourself.

The 1839-D is highly important as the first Dahlonega Mint coin of this denomination and the only Dahlonega quarter eagle of the Classic Head type. As such, it has been in perennial demand ever since the late 19th century and, selectively even before that time.

Attractive 1839-D \$2.50



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 175 1839-D AU-58 (NGC). A lovely, frosty 1839-D which, for our money, we would rather have in our collection than the MS-61 offered earlier! It might be a bit of heresy to say this, and it probably

doesn't make any difference anyway, as more people buy "numbers" than they do anything else. However, to our eye the *present coin* has a great deal of *life* and personality and, to top it all off, is a nicer strike than the higher-graded piece in the preceding lot. It will be interesting to see how it does in the real world when it crosses the auction block!

Actually, *both* pieces are in such high grades that counterparts are scarcely ever seen. It is a delight to catalogue such specimens.

High Grade 1840-O \$2.50



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 176 1840-O MS-62 (NGC). Light yellow gold. Fields mostly lustrous with some friction. Average strike with some lightness on the center, this being characteristic and not a negative. An incredibly high grade example of an issue which when seen is apt to be VF or EF, hardly ever in Mint State or closely challenging it.

Additionally important is its status as the first year of issue in the quarter eagle series of the Coronet Head design. For some reason, all 1840 quarter eagle varieties—Philadelphia, Charlotte, and Dahlonega—are almost impossible to find in Mint State. Apparently there was no first-year-of-issue saving syndrome.

- 177 Pair PCGS-certified quarter eagles: ☆ 1843 AU-50. Lustrous yellow surfaces ☆ 1893 MS-61. Lustrous rose with splashes of pale blue at the devices. (Total: 2 pieces)

Stunning Gem 1856 Quarter Eagle

Incredible Quality



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 178 1856 MS-67 (PCGS). Sharply struck, brilliant, lustrous, beautiful, and accompanied by a high grading number from the service that started it all, PCGS. What more could be asked? This coin is incredible in its appearance and quality, breathtakingly beautiful and worthy of a corresponding bid.

Key 1859-D Quarter Eagle

Beautiful AU



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 179 **1859-D AU-58 (PCGS).** A splendid specimen in bright yellow gold with nuances of orange. Somewhat prooflike if held at an angle to the light. Quite well struck except on the feathers at the lower left of the shield. An excellent combination of high grade, surface appearance and overall *personality*—no doubt one of the very finest 1859-D specimens in existence anywhere.

With the grade inflation that in our opinion that has taken place in the gold series in the past decade, we would not be surprised if this piece would reappear in a holder marked "Mint State." In a way, widely differing grading interpretations bring the need for a *professional numismatist* around full circle. Time was that quite a few collectors felt that encapsulation would replace the need to consult with coin dealers, as one number could state everything anyone wanted to know. However, increasingly this is being viewed as fallacious (except for ostrich-like investors), and dealers who offer caring, attentive, personal service to their clients are enjoying more business than just about any time ever! As professional numismatists we are delighted with the bonding that is occurring, although it would be nice if the inflation stopped and deflation took place. Then the term "undergraded" could be used with regularity!

- 180 Trio of quarter eagles: ☆ 1861-S VG-8 ☆ 1868-S VF-25. Rose toning at the devices ☆ 1925-D AU-50. Lustrous yellow surfaces with just a hint of rose. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 181 **1873 Closed 3. MS-62 (PCGS).** Yellow gold with some splashes of orange. A nice example of this variety.
- 182 **1878 MS-62 (NGC).** Bright yellow gold. A nice coin for date collection or a type set.

Glittering Gem Proof 1884 \$2.50



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 183 **1884 Proof-65 (PCGS).** A beautiful specimen with frosty cameo portrait and devices set against a deeply mirrored field. A lovely specimen in warm yellow gold. One of the nicest in existence, one of the nicest seen.

The 1884 is doubly desirable as circulation strikes are extreme rarities, thus placing additional demand upon the few available

Proofs. Regarding the latter, just 73 were struck, of which perhaps 25 to 40 exist today, nearly always impaired (the same is true of 1883-dated Proof quarter eagles—for some reason both of these dates come to market in impaired Proof grade). A gem such as this will be a showpiece in the collection of its fortunate owner. Congratulations in advance to the successful bidder.

PCGS Population: 5; 2 finer (Proof-66).

Date logotype nicely impressed into die. Date well centered horizontally and vertically, 1 marginally closer to truncation than to dentils, left edge of lower serif over left edge of dentil. A fine die line connects the lower point of the 4 to the lower loop of the 8. Upon close inspection it would seem that the portrait of Miss Liberty has a fine granular or matte surface, imparting a very nice appearance overall.

From our sale of the Harry W. Bass, Jr. Collection, November 2000, Lot 247.

Superb Gem 1890 Quarter Eagle



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 184 **1890 MS-66 (NGC).** A splendid coin with partially prooflike surface. Well struck and gorgeous in every respect. A little cameo that will be highly prized by its lucky next owner.

Choice Proof 1891 \$2.50



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 185 **1891 Proof-63 (PCGS).** Satiny honey gold devices set against mirrored honey gold fields provide a delightful cameo appearance to this choice Proof quarter eagle. From a Proof mintage for the date of 80 pieces, many of which have disappeared over the years through attrition. Attractive for the grade.

On the present specimen, the 9 and second 1 in the date plainly show repunching.

Superb Gem Proof 1898 \$2.50



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 186 **1898 Proof-68 Cameo (NGC).** An outstanding example of this late 19th-century quarter eagle issue, a glittering gem with cameo frosted motifs against attractive "orange peel" fields. A nicer quality coin could not be envisioned, even in theory.

Add to this the pedigree from the John J. Pittman Collection (catalogued by David W. Akers) and all the ingredients are in place for a numismatic treasure. A generous bid is suggested.

From the Pittman Collection.



- 187 **1898 Proof-58 (PCGS).** A lightly circulated—or lightly mishandled—Proof quarter eagle. Honey gold mirrors support frosty design motifs. No major marks present, just some hairlines in the fields. Pleasing for the grade, and no doubt a good value at the assigned grade.

Proof 1905 Quarter Eagle



- 188 **1905 Proof-60.** Yellow-gold reflective surfaces are somewhat cloudy around the devices. Some faint traces of mishandling are noted, but the overall appeal is substantial for a coin at the assigned grade.
- 189 **1905 MS-64 (PCGS).** Lustrous and frosty. A thoroughly beautiful example of the date and grade.
- 190 **Trio of quarter eagles:** ☆ 1907 AU-55. Yellow surfaces ☆ 1908 EF-40. Reddish gold ☆ 1909 AU-58. Lustrous. (Total: 3 pieces)

Nearly Complete Indian \$2.50 Set

- 191 **Nearly complete set of Indian Head quarter eagles 1908 through 1929 with grade averaging AU-55 to MS-61.** Lacking only the 1911-D. A nicely matched set housed in a Capital plastic holder. (Total: 14 pieces)
- 192 **1909 MS-64 (PCGS).** Bright yellow gold. Highly lustrous. An above average example.

Mint State 1911-D \$2.50



- 193 **1911-D MS-61.** Sharply struck D mintmark. Brilliant and lustrous. Partial wire rim around part of the obverse, characteristic of authentic specimens of this issue. A lovely example.

The 1911-D is far and away the most elusive Indian Head quarter eagle in this grade, its closest competitor being the 1914 Philadelphia issue, but that variety trails at least a length or two behind. Highly important as a rarity, showcased even more so by the fact that of the 15 different varieties in a 1908-1929 Indian Head quarter eagle set, all of the others are relatively easily available—except this.

Key 1911-D Quarter Eagle



- 194 **1911-D AU-50 (ANACS).** An attractive example with most original mint lustre still remaining.



- 195 **1911-D EF-40.** Some lustre remains on the honey gold surfaces. A third specimen of this ever-popular key date.
- 196 **Starter set of Indian quarter eagles:** ☆ 1913 AU-55 ☆ 1914 AU-55 ☆ 1915 AU-58 ☆ 1925-D AU-55 ☆ 1926 AU-58 ☆ 1927 AU-55 ☆ 1928 AU-58 ☆ 1929 AU-58. A well matched grouping, all with lustrous surfaces. (Total: 8 pieces)
- 197 **1914 MS-60.** Satiny honey gold surfaces.
- 198 **Trio of Indian quarter eagles:** ☆ 1914-D AU-55. Hairlines ☆ 1915 AU-58. Lustrous yellow surfaces ☆ 1927 MS-60. Lustrous with a minute copper spot in the feathers. (Total: 3 pieces)

THREE-DOLLAR GOLD PIECES



- 199 **1854 AU-58 (NGC).** Sharply struck with lustrous greenish yellow gold surfaces and few abrasions. First year of issue and a one year design variation with small letters in the denomination on the reverse.



- 200 1854 AU-58 (NGC). Bright yellow gold, closely challenging the Mint State level as, indeed, AU-58 is supposed to do. A high grade coin for someone wanting quality but not at a Mint State price.
- 201 Pair of three-dollar gold pieces: ☆ 1854 Net EF-45 ☆ 1888 Net VF-20. Both are finer for sharpness, but have been lightly cleaned. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 202 1855 VF-20. Medium yellow gold. Nicely struck. Second year of issue of this generally low-mintage denomination.



- 203 1861 AU-50 (PCGS). Light yellow gold with some violet toning. A coin from the rare decade of the 1860s. Always in demand.

Choice Mint State 1868 \$3 Gold



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 204 1868 MS-63 (PCGS). A choice specimen, well struck and very beautiful. Some prooflike surfaces visible when the coin is held at an angle to the light. Lustrous, frosty surfaces. Only a handful of examples exist that can compete with the present coin in terms of grade combined with eye appeal. A winner in every sense of the world.



- 205 1871 EF-40 (PCGS). Deep yellowish orange with hints of mirrored surface in the protected areas. A few light hairlines and other very minor abrasions are noted. This is a scarce, low-mintage issue with just 1,300 circulation strikes produced. Perhaps no more than 200 examples survive today, creating by any account a *rarity*, although, remarkably, the market value of this piece at present seems to be below \$1,000.

Lustrous 1874 \$3 Gold

Choice Mint State
The Bass Specimen



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 206 1874 MS-64 (PCGS). From our sale of the Harry W. Bass, Jr. Collection, where it was described as: "A frosty and lustrous example. Attractive orange-gold toning highlights grace frosty motifs and slightly reflective fields. The fields are graced with whispers of olive iridescence, adding to the overall appeal. While considered one of the more readily available dates in the design type, quality such as this is anything but "readily available." A coin that pleased Harry W. Bass, Jr., and one that should please you equally as well."

From our sale of Robert W. Schwan Collection, October 2000, Lot 2077. Previously from our sale of the Harry W. Bass, Jr. Collection, October 1999, Lot 692.

Mint State 1878 \$3



- 207 1878 MS-62 (PCGS). Warm yellow gold. Well struck. A very attractive example of this popular late date in the series.
- Interestingly, the dies are aligned at 160° rather than the normal 180°—a little bonus.

- 208 1878 AU-58 (PCI). This lovely example has fully brilliant and frosty yellow gold lustre with only the faintest wear at the highest design points. This issue is a popular candidate for the type collector.

- 209 1878 EF-45. Well struck and highly lustrous. A popular date.

- 210 1878 VF-35, or finer. Lustre remains in protected areas. A nice *basic* \$3 gold coin for a type set. Attractive at this grade level.



- 211 1881 EF-40. Lightly abraded surfaces with very light yellow gold. Considerable prooflike character remains around letters and devices. An attractive example despite being lightly cleaned. Just 500 circulation strikes were coined, the lowest recorded circulation strike mintage of any collectible three-dollar gold coin.

In the massive database of gold coins Dave Bowers and a number of assistants have been gathering for several years, there is extensive information on each and every United States gold coin from 1795 to 1933. Concerning the 1881, there are some particularly interesting comments relating to Thomas L. Elder, the New York dealer who, in the first decade of the 20th century decided to chase gold dollars, \$3 pieces, and certain other issues (but generally not large denominations after 1834), and sent out circular notices to bank tellers. It is probably the case that nearly all circulated 1881 \$3 pieces in existence today came through Elder. Much more could be said.

Gem Mint State 1884 \$3



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 212 1884 MS-65 (NGC). Bright yellow gold with traces of warm orange toning. Some surface marks here and there have been considered by the certification service. Nicely struck and with attractive overall appearance. A low mintage date that is in perennial demand.

NGC Census: 2; 2 finer (MS-67 finest).
Die alignment: 160°.

HALF EAGLES

Choice AU 1805 Half Eagle

Close Date Variety



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 213 1805 Breen-6445, B-3B. Rarity-4. AU-55 (NGC). Lightly granular olive-gold with much lustre remaining. Free of all but some super-

fluorous marks, and quite attractive overall. A pleasing example of a fairly scarce date and variety combination.

Choice Mint State 1834 \$5

Classic Head



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 214 1834 Breen-6501. Classic Head. MS-63 (PCGS). A splendid specimen of the design authorized on June 28, 1834, and introduced into circulation in late summer of the same year. The present piece is nearly fully prooflike and, if it were a Morgan dollar, could be called DMPL. The striking is excellent and the overall aspect is very attractive. Here, indeed, is a very special coin—ideal for the half eagle specialist as well as the type collector.
- 215 1834 Breen-6501. Plain 4. EF-40. Attractive greenish yellow gold with very minor abrasions. First year of the Classic Head design with its reduced weight, designed to promote active circulation.
- 216 1839-C Net VF-30; sharpness of EF-40, cleaned, with a few stray marks at Liberty's neckline. The second of just two years with the mintmark on the obverse; in 1840, the mintmark was moved to the reverse.
- 217 1842-D Small Date. VF-25. Warm olive-gold with some deeper gold around the devices. A small obverse rim mark is noted at 8:00, otherwise the surfaces are pleasing for the grade. A popular date from Georgia's federal mint.
- 218 Trio of half eagles: ☆ 1843 EF-45. Yellow surfaces ☆ 1848-C VG-8 ☆ 1879 EF-45. Lustre remaining with hints of soft rose highlights. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 219 1844-O Net AU-50; sharpness of AU-55, but with slightly granular saltwater surfaces. Olive-gold with some deeper golden traces near the devices. A faint obverse field mark and a tiny reverse rim bruise above ES are noted for accuracy. Still, a pleasing coin in many respects.

Raised die lumps on Liberty's neck in front of her hair curls. Reverse die crack unites the bases of TATES, then juts upward to the rim over the S. Another fork of that crack, much lighter in appearance, juts downward across the field to the top of the eagle's head.

Lustrous 1845-D \$5



- 220 1845-D AU-50. Strong lustre on olive-gold surfaces. Somewhat prooflike in the fields. Nicely struck from lightly clashed dies.

- 221 Pair of certified half eagles: ☆ 1846 AU-50 (Hallmark). Lustrous yellow gold surfaces ☆ 1899 AU-58 (ANACS). Satiny golden rose surfaces. (Total: 2 pieces)

1849-C Half Eagle



- 222 1849-C Net AU-50; sharpness of AU-55, but with saltwater surfaces. Lustrous honey gold with some rose iridescence present. Nicely struck for the date—not fully so, but tantalizingly close. A few stray marks are present, most obvious of those a rim nick on the obverse at 6:00. A delightful coin nonetheless.

A reverse die crack runs from the rim at 7:00, just grazing the serif of the U in UNITED before joining the olive leaves above.

1849-D Half Eagle



- 223 1849-D Net AU-50; sharpness of AU-55, but with saltwater surfaces. Rich yellow gold with honey gold highlights. Nicely struck in all areas, with even the tiniest design details well represented. Lustrous and impressive, and a coin that should hold up well under careful scrutiny.

Notable 1854-C Half Eagle



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 224 1854-C MS-62 (NGC). Bright yellow gold. Very sharply struck in all areas, a rather unusual situation for Charlotte Mint gold coins in general. Variety with mintmark C fully defined, but not deeply punched into the die. Among one of the finest examples seen.

Three obverse dies were sent to Charlotte for this coinage and were combined with the reverses on hand. So far as we are able to determine, the same four-digit logotype was used for *all* half eagle dies from all mints, although there are two distinct states, differing from each other in the spacing of the third and fourth digits. At least two different reverse die are known, the presently offered variety here (with lightly impressed C) being the rarer.

The surface color of 1854-C half eagles varies, with some being rich gold (as here) and others being quite pale, perhaps in the lat-

ter category the coin offered as Lot 132 in S.H. Chapman's sale of the David S. Wilson Collection, 1907, "1854-C silver alloy." At this time much gold from California was sent to the eastern mints, and in general such gold was lighter than metal from other sources.

From the mintage of 39,293, it seems that only about a half dozen have survived in Mint State, most of these in lower ranges.

- 225 Trio of certified half eagles: ☆ 1855 EF-45 (PCGS). 1 in dentils between 1 and 8. Rose toning on both surfaces ☆ 1899-S MS-61 (NGC). Lustrous with hints of pale olive at the peripheries ☆ 1910-D MS-61 (PCGS). Mixture of rose and pale blue toning on both surfaces. (Total: 3 pieces)

Choice Mint State 1856 \$5



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 226 1856 MS-63 (NGC). Warm yellow-orange gold, somewhat subdued in lustre. Decent strike. Overall a nice example of a variety that is not often encountered in Mint State, much less MS-63.

Spectacular 1856-S Half Eagle



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 227 1856-S MS-64 (PCGS). Not only is this piece Mint State, but it is lustrous, well struck, and has a *personality* that inspires admiration. Exceedingly rare at this level.

The *S.S. Central America* find brought to hand 32 examples of 1856-S, the majority of which were in AU grade, and one of the finer pieces being in MS-62 preservation, as catalogued and offered by Christie's, December 2000. Prior to this time our estimate that just three to five Mint State 1856-S half eagles existed. Indeed, in 1979 when David W. Akers studied the series, he was only able to find two among various historical listings. Today we place the figure at 10 to 14, an estimate of course, but no doubt in the ballpark. As noted, most are in lower ranges, thus showcasing the presently offered coin as being very *special*.

Mint State 1857 Half Eagle



- 228 **1857 MS-62 (PCGS).** A splendid piece with warm orange-gold surfaces and much lustre. Nicely struck. A beautiful coin, sure to please.

Seldom Seen Mint State 1858 \$5



- 229 **1858 MS-61 (PCGS).** Light yellow gold with some splashes of orange. Nicely struck. Seldom seen in Mint State, and a *find* accordingly. A nice example with a mintage of just 15,136.

Attractive and Rare 1859-C \$5



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 230 **1859-C AU-58 (NGC).** Bright yellow gold. Typical strike for 1859-C with some lightness below shield, scarcely worth mentioning and usually overlooked. A coin that is in the top 15% of known specimens grade-wise.

Small Date logotype consistently used on all half eagles of the year, imparting a distinctive difference, sometimes called "Small Date," as by Thomas L. Elder, General Reeve Collection, 1937, Lot 1428), but more often not discussed at all there is no difference among issues this year.

- 231 **1866-S No Motto. F-15 (PCGS).** A very scarce variety, more so than is generally realized. Highly important, even in F-15 grade.

Any study of gold coins of this era, including Carson City and San Francisco pieces (struck in the American West) must of necessity include the manner of distribution and circulation. In 1866 (and later in 1870 when the Carson City Mint began operations), gold coins circulated hand to hand in Nevada, California, Oregon, Washington, and other districts, and thus pieces released into commerce were apt to become quite worn. In sharp contrast, on the East Coast not a single gold coin was to be seen in circulation anywhere (a situation that did not change in the East until the second part of December 1878). Because of this, the San Francisco gold coins of this era are on balance found in lower grades than are Philadelphia pieces from the same period. Dave Bowers' multi-volume study on gold coins will delve into such matters in detail when it is published, although information is still being gathered and correlated, and no publication date has been set.

- 232 **1870-S VG-10 (PCGS).** The same comment given to the 1866-S No Motto is applicable to this 1870-S as well, except that the 1870-S is not as rare.

Memorable 1880-CC \$5 Rarity



- 233 **1880-CC AU-55 (PCGS).** A lovely specimen struck with warm yellow-orange gold surfaces. Fairly well struck. A very attractive example of the date, mint, and grade.

The 1880-CC is virtually unknown in Mint State, with just a handful extant, these clustered at lower levels. Thus, an AU coin readily answers the call for an attractive high grade example of the variety.



- 234 **1880-CC AU-50 (NGC).** Bright yellow gold. Well struck, lustrous, and very attractive. As a rule, Carson City Mint half eagles of this era are rare in any grade and are especially so at the AU level. A *find* for the advanced collector.

- 235 **1881 MS-63 (NGC).** Lustrous with warm golden surfaces. Well struck. A coin for just about any budget—worth just a few hundred dollars on today's market.

- 236 **Quintette of half eagles:** ☆ 1881 AU-58. Semi-prooflike at the protected areas ☆ 1903-S AU-58. Pale yellow surfaces ☆ 1904 AU-58 (2). Both with lustrous and attractive surfaces ☆ 1908 MS-61. Satiny lustre. (Total: 5 pieces)

- 237 **Half dozen Liberty half eagles:** ☆ 1882 EF-45. Rose toning at the peripheries ☆ 1885 EF-45. Lustrous ☆ 1900 AU-55. Lustrous ☆ 1902-S AU-55. Lustrous ☆ 1907 AU-55. Brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1907-D AU-55. Lustrous yellow. (Total: 6 pieces)

High-Grade 1884-CC Half Eagle



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 238 **1884-CC AU-58 (NGC).** Bright yellow gold with some areas of prooflike surface visible when the coin is held at an angle to the light. Sharply struck. A prize example of this elusive variety.

We have been able to account for only three or four specimens in Mint State, these hovering around the MS-60 range and, who knows how many might have been graded AU by the conservative standards of a few years ago? Thus, similar to the 1880-CC, a high grade AU neatly fills the bill for the connoisseur seeking a special example of this elusive variety. The present coin is truly notable.

- 239 **1885-S MS-64.** Extreme mint lustre and intense brightness give this lovely half eagle the look of a finer grade.

- 240 1885-S MS-63 (NGC). Brilliant and highly attractive. A splendid piece which has much eye appeal and which will neatly fill the space for anyone seeking an exceptional 1885-S (forget about it being MS-63—some MS-64 coins are not this nice).

Superb Gem 1890 Half Eagle



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 241 1890 MS-66 (NGC). Brilliant with satiny surfaces, some traces of prooflike character, particularly on the reverse. A few marks here and there, most notably a scratch in the field beyond the tip of the branch. Slightly above average strike. A coin with a nice personality, to which can be added the basic rarity of this date.

The 1890 half eagle, of which just 4,240 circulation strikes were minted, was considered to be exceedingly rare in Mint State until a few turned up in Europe in the 1980s. Still, Mint State coins are rarities today, and most extant examples are in significantly lower grades than the one offered here, usually MS-60 to MS-62. To these can be added perhaps 60 to 90 circulated pieces, with EF and AU being typical grades.

The elusive quality of circulation strikes was not realized until the 1930s, for up to that time the relatively few people collecting half eagles by date sequence were satisfied with Proofs. Today in 2001 it is widely recognized that Proof format and circulation strike format are two different things, and often a coin can be readily available in Proof finish and very rare in Mint State, or vice versa. All of this makes an interesting study!

- 242 1891-CC MS-61 (PCGS). Warm yellow gold. Lustrous and frosty, a very nice example of the date, mint, and grade. One of the relatively few readily collectible Carson City coins of this denomination. As such, it is a candidate for a type set.
- 243 1891-CC MS-60. A highly lustrous example of this popular date and mint combination.

Memorable Gem 1899 \$5



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 244 1899 MS-66 (PCGS). A superb gem of truly memorable quality. Sharply struck with a wealth of detail in all areas including the hair and eagle feathers. Satiny, lustrous fields. A winning coin from any aspect!

- 245 1899 MS-63. Satiny and lustrous honey gold.

Proof 1900 Half Eagle



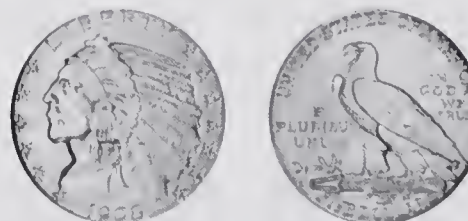
(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 246 1900 Proof-62 (PCGS). Bright yellow gold. Frosty motifs and mirror fields stand boldly apart, imparting an impressive cameo contrast. Choice for the grade, with plenty of "pizzazz" and eye appeal.
- 247 1902-S MS-63 (NGC). Warm yellow-orange gold surfaces. Nicely struck. A coin that will please the "fussy" buyer.

Gem 1908 Liberty \$5



- 248 1908 Liberty. MS-65 (NGC). Sharply struck and very attractive. Satiny lustre. Important as the last year of the Liberty Head series, sort of an anachronism, as the motif was discontinued in other gold series the year before.
- 249 Quartette of half eagles: ☆ 1908 AU-55 ☆ 1909-D AU-55 ☆ 1911 AU-55 ☆ 1911-D AU-50. All with lustrous and attractive surfaces. (Total: 4 pieces)



- 250 1908-S AU-58 (NGC). Lustrous honey gold with a whisper of olive and rose. Fairly scarce in all grades, but the 1908-S Indian half eagle has been highly prized for quite a long time.
- 251 Quartette of Indian half eagles grading EF-45 to AU-50: ☆ 1909 ☆ 1910 ☆ 1910-S ☆ 1911. A well-matched grouping. (Total: 4 pieces)
- 252 Pair of Mint State half eagles: ☆ 1909-D MS-60 ☆ 1913 MS-62. Both are brilliant and lustrous. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 253 Pair of NGC-certified half eagles: ☆ 1909-S AU-55 ☆ 1910-S AU-58. Both having yellow surfaces. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 254 Trio of certified half eagles: ☆ 1910 MS-61 (ANACS). Lustrous with a hint of rose ☆ 1913-S EF-45 (PCB). Yellow surfaces ☆ 1916 S AU-55 (NGC). Lovely golden rose surfaces. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 255 1911-D AU-55 (PCGS). Rich rose iridescence on deep golden surfaces. Plenty of lustre remains.
- 256 **Quartette of half eagles:** ☆ 1912 AU-58 ☆ 1914 AU-50 ☆ 1914-S AU-55 ☆ 1915 AU-58. Each having lustrous and attractive surfaces. (Total: 4 pieces)
- 257 1912-S AU-58 (PCGS). Strong lustre on bright honey gold surfaces.
- 258 1914-D MS-62 (NGC). Satiny and lustrous rose-gold. A pleasing coin for the grade.
- 259 1915-S AU-55 (NGC). A high degree of lustre remains on rose-gold surfaces. A scarce and popular branch mint issue.

Mint State 1929 \$5 Rarity



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 260 **1929 MS-62 (NGC).** Intense golden lustre on bright, satiny surfaces. A rich blush of rose illuminates the recessed areas. The most important date in the Indian half eagle series and the last year of that series as well. Extremely rare in Mint State, despite a generous mintage of 662,000 pieces. It is believed that virtually all of these pieces were stored by the Treasury Department, never released, and melted in the 1930s. The number actually distributed is not known, but it would not surprise us if it was no more than 1,000 pieces. Today, only 200 or 300 can be accounted for.
- By all odds the 1929 is *the* rarity in the 1908-1929 half eagle series, this in terms of total numbers known. Regarding Mint State coins it is not the rarest, as the 1909-O, scarce but generally available in lower grades, emerges as the key issue in Mint State.

EAGLES

Scarce Early 1801 \$1



- 261 **1801 Breen-6843, B-2B. Rarity-3. Net VF-20;** sharpness of EF-45, cleaned with some light tooling, ex jewelry mounts removed.

- 262 1847 EF-45. Pale olive-gold with a touch of lustre. Some scattered marks are noted, particularly above the eagle's head on the reverse.
- 263 **Pair of PCGS-certified eagles:** ☆ 1853 EF-45. Lustrous reddish gold surfaces ☆ 1883 MS-61. Lustrous with splashes of orange-gold. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 264 **Trio of Liberty eagles:** ☆ 1855 Net VF-35 ☆ 1878 Net VF-35 ☆ 1903-O Net EF-45. Each is finer for sharpness, but with minor problems. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 265 1856 EF-45. Dusky rose-gold with some lustre in the recessed areas. A few faint marks are present, but the overall appeal is fairly strong.
- 266 **Quartette of Liberty eagles:** ☆ 1856 Net VF-20; sharpness of VF-35, rim nick. Graffiti smoothed from fields ☆ 1882 Net EF-45; sharpness of EF-40, obverse scratch ☆ 1894 (2). AU-58. Lustrous yellow surfaces with a hint of rose, AU-50. Yellow surfaces. (Total: 4 pieces)

Notable Quality 1856-O \$10



- 267 **1856-O AU-50 (PCGS).** A notable specimen in high grade, one of the finest to come on the market in our generation. Pale yellow gold, perhaps from California metal. Dies with some prooflike surface still visible in protected areas. Well struck. A splendid specimen for the advanced collector of the series.

We have traced no Mint State examples of 1856-O, and note that in his lifetime Harry W. Bass, Jr., acquired seven specimens of this date and mintmark, the highest of which was graded EF-45. At the time such pieces were struck there was absolutely no numismatic interest in collecting them, and not even the Mint Cabinet in Philadelphia, which assembled a display by *date*, was interested in mintmarks. Although Augustus G. Heaton in his *Treatise on Mintmarks*, 1893 discussed gold coins, at that time he knew of not a single person anywhere who collected half eagles, eagles, or \$20 pieces by mintmark sequence! This was a powerful statement, as Heaton, a prominent author of his day and in the same decade president of the American Numismatic Association, was widely acquainted with other enthusiasts.

Significant interest in New Orleans coins did not arise until the 1930s, during which decade there was little useful information as to true rarity. Auction appearances are fairly plentiful, and the writer and a team of field researchers have quite a bit of time looking for such citations, particularly rich fields being the sales of J.C. Morgenthau & Company (generally catalogued by Wayte Raymond and James G. Macallister) and Thomas L. Elder. Although Raymond was deeply interested in the technicalities of numismatics and, in fact, was the leading publisher of his decade, he paid scant attention to mintmarked varieties and characteristics, and thus virtually all of the Morgenthau listings simply are date, mintmark, and grade. This lack of interest at the time may have been desirable, for it generated a fertile field for later students of the series, including Walter Breen, David W. Akers, and Douglas Winter, to give just a short list.

Today many things remain to be published about Coronet Head gold coins of the 19th century. In our presentation of the Bass Collection we brought many notes to print, but much more remains to be said.

AU 1867-S Eagle



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 268 **1867-S AU-58 (NGC).** Sharply struck. Medium gold surfaces. Lustre intermingled with contact marks, the latter reflective of use in San Francisco commerce. *One of the finest specimens we have seen*, standing far above the typical variety of 1857-S, which is apt to be VF.

We have not been able to account for even a single Mint State 1867-S, and only an estimated 35 to 50 circulated pieces. In our offering of the Bass Collection Part II we reflected on the situation, and noted that David Akers wrote about eagles, EF was the highest grade he was able to find among historical listings, and that he personally never saw one as nice. We also noted that in our opinion grade inflation has taken place, and probably some pieces called EF years ago might be called AU today. This notwithstanding, the present piece is perfectly satisfactory at AU, and correctly graded as such, in the opinion of the writer.

If time and space were not a consideration we could reiterate many historical offerings of the 1867-S, as we have collected quite a few. We conclude by mentioning that the J.F. Bell Collection (Stack's, 1944), included a piece in EF grade, and that the Eliasberg U.S. Gold Coin Collection, catalogued by the writer in 1982, brought to the auction block a VF-30.

Highly Important 1874-S Eagle



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 269 **1874-S AU-55 (PCGS).** Light yellow gold with lots of residual mint lustre and very nice eye appeal. Few of the mintage of 10,000 pieces from San Francisco this year survive in any grade as they were struck for purely utilitarian purposes without a single example, to our knowledge, being saved by a numismatist. Today the 1874-S is scarce in all grades and is of formidable rarity in the quality offered here.

For the 1874-S we have never located a Mint State coin. The variety did not come to numismatic attention in a significant way until the 1930s, after which examples were offered only *occasionally* with even some of the largest cabinets not having a representative. Although a long string of citations could be mentioned for effect, this would simply be a recitation of coins from Fine to EF.

Important 1875-CC Eagle



- 270 **1875-CC VF-30 (PCGS).** Light yellow gold. Average strike. About par for an example of 1875-CC, a median level example with a fair amount of company among the relatively few extant. We have located not a single Mint State coin, and estimate that 60 to 80 circulated pieces exist, with, as noted, Very Fine being standard. For the Carson City specialist the present piece is, indeed, a nice acquisition, for examples of 1875-CC are not seen often.

Low-Mintage 1876-CC \$10 Rarity



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 271 **1876-CC EF-40 (PCGS).** Deep honey gold with generous amounts of lustre in the recessed areas. Somewhat reflective in the recessed areas as well. From a mintage of just 4,696 pieces, all of which were released locally into circulation, most of those remaining there until well worn. The typical survivor from that mintage is just VF, with more specimens known below that level than above. An altogether pleasing example of this prized rarity.

Important 1887-S \$10 Rarity



- 272 **1887-S AU-53 (PCGS).** Light yellow gold. Fairly well struck. A nice example of the date, mint and grade.

The 1887-S eagle, of which only 17,000 were made, circulated at par in the American West at a time when gold coins were not seen at all in circulation in the East or Midwest. From the original production we estimate that 125 to 175 exist today, the typical or median specimen being VF, followed at a distance by EF, and seldom seen finer.

Fantastic 1878-CC Eagle



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 273 **1878-CC AU-55 (PCGS).** A fantastic quality specimen of one of the key issues among all Carson City gold coins. Only 3,244 were struck of the 1878-CC, ranking it second only to the 1879-CC. Douglas Winter, who has studied the series extensively in modern times, ranks the AU 1878-CC among the rarest of the rare, on a par with such seldom-seen issues as 1872-CC, 1873-CC, 1875-CC, and 1876-CC.

The strike on all authentic specimens is somewhat light at the center, not often mentioned in auction catalogues or other listings, and possibly of interest only from a technical viewpoint. The lustre is, shall we say, of medium intensity on this variety—not deeply frosty but somewhat satiny. Coloration is often a warm gold. The present coin has an undisturbed surface, reflecting natural toning from over a century of existence. The aesthetic aspects are excellent, and by any evaluation this is one of the very finest in existence. The fact that not a single specimen is known in Mint State places the limelight on this particular coin—a piece that will be the focal point of attention when it crosses the auction block.

Perfect die (that is, no cracks), slight clash mark between eagle's neck and wing shoulder on the left.

- 274 **Trio of eagles:** ☆ 1880 (2). AU-58. Lustrous; AU-55. Golden rose ☆ 1888-O AU-58. Lustrous yellow surfaces. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 275 **Quartette of Liberty eagles grading MS-60:** ☆ 1881 ☆ 1882 ☆ 1897 ☆ 1900. Each having lustrous and lightly frosted surfaces. (Total: 4 pieces)



- 276 1881-CC AU-55 (PCGS). Medium yellow gold surfaces with some toning from over a century of existence. Quite well struck. A “nice” specimen of this issue. Coin for coin, date for date, Carson City eagles are quite a bit scarcer than their larger double eagle counterparts, although there are some exceptions here and there.

Attractive 1883-CC \$10 Piece



- 277 1883-CC AU-53 (NGC). Somewhat prooflike in protected areas. Quite well struck. Light yellow gold. A nice example of this scarce Carson City issue, a variety seldom seen at this level. Typical pieces are VF or EF.

Important 1884-CC \$10 Rarity “Cancelled Die” Obverse



- 278 1884-CC “Cancelled Obverse.” AU-58 (PCGS). Satiny, lustrous orange-gold with splashes of rose iridescence. Sharply struck and aesthetically appealing, with claims to a higher grade. One of only 9,925 examples of the date coined at Carson City, with perhaps just 100 or so examples of the date currently known. A very scarce date in all grades, with choice AU specimens such as offered here of the highest importance.

The present coin is of the so-called “Cancelled Die variety,” possibly more prevalent among known specimens than the “Normal” variety. The obverse shows heavy lines across Liberty’s portrait, which have long been conjectured to be chiseled cancellation marks from a die placed back into service. Our view is different, and we consider these characteristics to be simply unfinished lapping lines similar to those sometimes seen around the periphery of obverse dies throughout the series. Following heavy filing (also called lapping) to removing clashing or die rust, dies were typically “finished” with a much finer series of files and abrasives to remove vestiges of the heavier conditioning. This obverse die merely missed the finishing step in its preparation for being placed into coining service.



- 279 1884-CC “Cancelled Obverse.” EF-45 (NGC). Lustrous yellow gold with some deeper honey highlights. A pleasing example, for the grade, of this rare and elusive Carson City issue.
Struck from the so-called “cancelled” obverse die, discussed under the preceding lot.

Lustrous 1887-S Eagle



- 280 1887-S MS-63 (PCGS). Brilliant and lustrous. Light yellow gold with some hint of toning around the rims. Well struck on obverse and reverse. Although Mint State coins come on the market with some frequency, they are apt to be in grades from MS-60 to MS-62, with MS-63 coins being in the distinct minority.

- 281 1889-S MS-62 (NGC). Bright yellow gold. Sharply struck and with lustre intermingled with slight evidence of prooflike surfaces. An excellent example of a date which, when seen, is apt to be in lower grades. Quite inexpensive on today’s market.

- 282 1891-CC AU-55 (PCGS). Satiny orange-gold with a high degree of lustre on both sides.

- 283 **Quartette of eagles grading MS-62 (PCGS):** ☆ 1893 (2) ☆ 1899 ☆ 1901. All have attractive subdued orange-gold surfaces. A very handsome grouping! (Total: 4 pieces)
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.

- 284 **Trio of MS-62 (PCGS) eagles:** ☆ 1893 ☆ 1900 ☆ 1901-S. Each is lustrous. An opportunity to acquire three different coins, each attractive, with a single bid. (Total: 3 pieces)
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.

- 285 **Trio of eagles grading MS-62 (PCGS):** ☆ 1893. Lustrous ☆ 1895. Lustrous ☆ 1901. Lightly frosted devices. Another nice group of gold coins. (Total: 3 pieces)
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.

- 286 **Trio of Liberty eagles grading MS-62 (PCGS):** ☆ 1893 (2). Both with lustrous surfaces ☆ 1907. Lustrous with frosty olive highlights at the peripheries. (Total: 3 pieces)
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.

- 287 1894-O AU-58 (NGC). Bright yellow gold. Highly lustrous. Popular New Orleans variety.
Very tiny O mintmark on reverse.

- 288 **Trio of eagles:** ☆ 1900 MS-61. Lustrous ☆ 1908 Motto. MS-61. Lustrous yellow surfaces ☆ 1914-D EF-40. Golden with soft rose toning at the devices. (Total: 3 pieces)

Select Proof 1901 Eagle



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 289 **1901 Proof-62.** Bright yellow gold with a modest cameo contrast between the lightly frosted design elements and the mirror fields. Splashes of deeper gold enhance the eagle on the reverse. Choice for the grade, and appealing as such. From a Proof mintage for the date of 85 pieces.



- 290 **1901 MS-64 (NGC).** A splendid specimen, well struck, with gorgeous satiny surfaces—a coin with exceptional aesthetic appeal, and worth a *premium* as such—although no case can be made for the 1901 being a rare date. The seeker of quality will want to focus on this piece and bid accordingly.

Famous 1907 Indian Head \$10 Rarity

With Periods, Wire Rim



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 291 **1907 Periods. Wire Edge. MS-64 (PCGS).** A splendid specimen in bright yellow gold. Matte surface overall, characteristic of every example seen, and produced from a die that was not polished and which in some areas still exhibits finish marks. It is believed that just 550 examples were struck, of which many if not most were saved, and of which perhaps 325 to 375 still exist. The distinctive design, with periods before and after the reverse legends, has always attracted a lot of attention, and year in and year out this has been a highly desired numismatic showpiece. The present coin has a great deal of eye appeal and should attract strong bidding attention.

The story of the coin is given below.

Notes on the 1907 Saint-Gaudens \$10 With-Periods, Wire Rim

by Q. David Bowers

The Beginning

In 1905 President Theodore Roosevelt commissioned noted sculptor Augustus Saint-Gaudens to redesign the entire American coinage spectrum from the cent to the double eagle. Working in his studio in Cornish, New Hampshire (now a National Historic Site), the artist prepared many sketches. In failing health, Saint-Gaudens was able to complete or nearly complete work for just two denominations, the \$10 and \$20, both of which were first struck in 1907.

His \$10 design bore on the obverse a female wearing an Indian war bonnet, said to have been taken from the portrait of his mistress, Davida Clark, with whom he is alleged to have had a child (although biographers have never been able to confirm this). The bonnet or headdress is inscribed LIBERTY on a band, 13 stars are in an arc above, and the date is below.

The reverse depicts a perched eagle with UNITED STATES OF AMERICA above, the motto E PLURIBUS UNUM to the right, and the denomination expressed as TEN DOLLARS below. The eagle on the new 1907 \$10 was directly copied from the motif Saint-Gaudens used on the 1905 presidential inaugural medal for Theodore Roosevelt. Later, Bela Lyon Pratt used essentially the same motif for the reverse of the new \$2.50 and \$5 coins of 1908.

As President Roosevelt personally objected to the use of the name of the Deity on coins, the Indian issues of 1907 and certain issues of 1908 lack IN GOD WE TRUST. Coinage of the type was effected at Philadelphia in 1907 and 1908 and also in Denver the latter year.

Reviewing New \$10 Design

The advent of the Indian Head \$10 prompted many numismatists and others to write to popular coin-collecting periodicals such as *The Numismatist* and the *Elder Monthly*. Samples:

Letters printed in the *Elder Monthly*, Volume 2, October-November, 1907:

"My dear Mr. Elder—

"I am enclosing a couple of rubbings of Bryan dollars, and descriptions of another one that has parodies of 'In God We Trust.' A search in the bar rooms will reveal a lot more parodies for at one time these places were especially rich in such mottoes. I trust that you will speak well of the new eagle. I have just sent off to Editor Heath [Dr. George Heath, Monroe, Michigan, editor of *The Numismatist*] a word of praise about the piece.

"In justification of the Greek type of the new \$10, the placing of the head as it is and the feathers going to the edge, almost identical types can be found among many Greek coins. I can only think of a few offhand, including the Athenian pieces, and those of Thurium, Pharsalos, and Vefia.

"In justification of the 'pants' of the eagle, a glance at our own coins of the seated liberty type will show that trousers were worn long in those days, as well as in the time of the Ptolemies, and good examples can be found on those Ptolemaic coins with one and two eagles on the reverse. I think the design of the obverse and reverse are grand conceptions, but the technical execution or die work I do not consider good.

"Yours very truly,

"HOWLAND WOOD, Secretary [corresponding secretary of the ANA, to which post he had been elected the preceding September; later, Wood would become prominent with the American Numismatic Society]

"Brookline, Massachusetts,

"November 13, 1907."

Another letter:

"My dear Mr. Elder—

"I have examined the new Saint-Gaudens ten dollar gold coin which you so kindly obtained for me and will briefly give you my opinion of it.

"Upon the obverse, the head and appurtenances and date are too large for the size of the piece, and the stars too small. The face of Liberty is an anomaly. The prominent nose and chin indicate determination and strength of character, but the effect of over hanging 'upper jaw' and lip with open mouth is idiotic. While the face is not that of an Indian, the headgear is.

"On the reverse, we find a turkey buzzard in pantalets. The words of the legend above and value below the effigy are not sufficiently spaced, and are too close to the outer rim of the coin. There should be a marginal space between the top of these letters and the rim. 'E Pluribus Unum' is added as a postscript.

"The style of letters used on both obverse and reverse and the figures of date show very poor judgment viewed from a typographical standpoint.

"In one respect the piece may be called a 'howling success.' It is entirely different from anything ever before issued by the United States Mint, and no patent is needed to protect the designer from infringements.

"The coin, both obverse and reverse, is a humiliating disappointment, without one redeeming feature, and is a 'foozle.'

"Yours very truly,

"E. GILBERT" [Ebenezer Gilbert, of New York City, a close friend of Elder's, a frequent consignor to his auctions, and, years later in 1916, the author of *The United States Half Cents. From the First Year of Issue, 1793, to the Year When Discontinued, 1857*, published by Elder. Gilbert was born in 1835.]

Another letter:

"My dear Mr. Elder—

"It is not strange that a feeling of exultation results from one's first glimpse of the new \$10 gold coin. Chagrin and dismay have long stirred within us at sight of our coins in contrast with these of other nations, and to have one now that need not be defended save from attacks of patriotic committees from Harrisburg [Where the "Mary Cunningham" controversy reached a head; discussed later in the present text] and from overzealous religious enthusiasts, is indeed gratifying.

"To the former we might say, should we be able to assume sufficient gravity in addressing them: 'Look you! A great painter or sculptor is no one-eyed camera, nor does he slavishly copy every feature before him when he works from a model, in order thus to translate more readily into the medium he has chosen, his conception of beauty, or grandeur or power.'

"The simple beauty and dignity of design here shown on both obverse and reverse, must eventually silence all such noisy objections, and so we listen with a show of tolerance to the criticisms noted.

"Formerly at the suggestion of that great American, Benjamin Franklin, some of our coins were inscribed 'Mind your business,' and it has been suggested that if we must have a motto, this be reinstated as being more pertinent and characteristic.

"Seriously though, it is certainly true, as President Roosevelt so convincingly showed in his recent open letter, that it has come to be flagrant irreverence to use the inscription 'In God We Trust' on the country's coins. Reverence for truth and beauty is most effectively in evidence in a beautifully designed and characteristic coin, certainly—and it is because we, as a nation do not appreciate

the inspiring grace and power of beautiful symbols that we have so many ugly and dispiriting ones all about us.

"But now that we have it before us, we appreciate the grace and beauty of the firmly modeled head, so nicely placed, and so decoratively relieved by the stiff feathers; and the eagle remarkable for its spirited yet dignified posture and for the very evident characteristics, in drawing and modeling of the American eagle. In this we have at last a truthful, dignified and conventional American eagle.

"Charles J. Connick

"Boston,

"November 20, 1907."

Howland Wood, whose letter had been published by Elder (as quoted above), contributed this expanded commentary to *The Numismatist*, issue of December 1907:

"At last it has come—art in our new coinage. The new eagle, the talked of \$10 gold piece, has been put into circulation.

The obverse shows a grand statuesque head of Liberty crowned by an Indian war bonnet, on the band of which the word LIBERTY is inscribed. Around the edge in the upper half of the field are 13 pointed stars, below the neck the date 1907.

"The placing of the head with a blank space in front is very artistic, and it is regrettable that more designers do not realize the value of blank spaces, but rather deem it necessary to make use of every available space on a coin. At first glance the feathered bonnet looks too large, but after the eye becomes reconciled to the new type no change would be wanted. The general pose of the head, its position on the coin, and the arrangement of the headdress resembles very closely several of the old Greek coins. Symbolism occupied a prominent place on these ancient Greek pieces and evidences of it are marked on this, the position of the feathers and the stars suggest in their combination the stars and stripes in our flag. The eager attentive face, full of expression and yet full of dignity and a certain amount of serenity, is a long step ahead from the almost vacant stare of the faces depicted on our previous coins.

"Owing to the high relief which Saint-Gaudens prepared the model for this coin and the necessary modification of this relief to bring it down to the modern mechanical requirements the locks of the hair above the eagle are not as well worked out as might be desired. A good deal of this effect may later be overcome.

"The reverse of the coin shows the typical Saint-Gaudens eagle in a standing pose with partially drooping wings. The eagle occupies the central position on the reverse and with an impressive majesty dominates this side of the coin. The reverse as a whole shows a careful working out of type and inscription with a happy avoidance of overcrowding which cannot be said of so many of our other coins.

"A noticeable change from our other pieces is the treatment of the background, both on obverse and reverse. Instead of being flat there is a general hollowing in from the edge, or cup-shaped depression from the mill to the center. This treatment of the sunken parts of the piece has been done on different European coins of recent dates, especially the French.

"A still greater departure from old standards is noticed on the edge. Instead of the reeding as heretofore used, the edge on the present piece is composed of 46 raised stars, signifying the states of the Union. The coin is a magnificent conception throughout, of a refined Greek character, simple in its aspect, but grand in its dignity, and will surely find a place in the front rank with the best coins of the age.

"—HOWLAND WOOD."

The Mary Cunningham Commotion

In 1907 a story went the rounds of newspapers to the effect that the portrait on the new Saint-Gaudens \$10 was of a—perish the thought—foreigner. Sample items:

New York Sun:

"A Pennsylvania Society has protested against the act of the late Augustus Saint-Gaudens in using as the design for the new coin the profile of a young woman born out of the United States. It is interesting to reflect that the model used for long by another artist for his typical 'American girl' was also an alien."

This commentary in the *Sun* was from the pen of Edgar H. Adams. At the time, "The American Girl" was all the rage, and depictions of the ideal American lass were drawn and painted by Charles Dana Gibson (the pioneer), Harrison Fisher (who derived the most publicity from the situation and who published the most color images, Gibson's being mostly black and white), Philip Boileau (whose character was particularly sensuous in appearance), and others. No attention was paid by these artists as to the country of birth of their models.

The preceding arose from a commentary datelined Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, September 19, 1907:

"Victor Boyer, state counselor of the Order of Independent Americans, will personally present to Secretary [of the Treasury] Cortelyou the protest of the order against placing the profile of Mary Cunningham on the United States gold coins.

"Miss Cunningham was a waitress in a Cornish, Vermont [Across the Connecticut River from Cornish, New Hampshire—the latter place being where

Saint-Gaudens had his studio. The sculptor's address was often given as Windsor, Vermont, as mail was delivered there more expediently, the Post Office being larger than at Cornish] eating house when discovered by the late Augustus Saint-Gaudens, the sculptor, who selected her as the model for the design he had been commissioned to execute for the government. The Independent Americans, admiring her rare beauty, object because she was born in Ireland."

In due course, this piece of fiction appeared in the *Elder Monthly*, Vol. 2, Nos. 6-7, reprinting a newspaper account:

"Windsor, Vermont, September 21.

"The Saint-Gaudens family refuse to give any information whatever regarding Mary Cunningham, the pretty young Irish waitress whom the late Augustus Saint-Gaudens took as a model when designing the new issue of gold coins.

"The Cunningham girl is now employed as a domestic in the family of the late sculptor, but no outsider is allowed to see her. The Saint-Gaudens villa is secluded on a spur of the Green Mountain range with numerous signs at the entrance to the grounds announcing that no strangers are admitted.

"Homer Saint-Gaudens, a son, said tonight that the statement that her face is to appear in profile on the copper cent is incorrect. He asserted, instead, that she will be shown full-length on either the ten or twenty-dollar gold piece [The full-length figure was used on the \$20 gold coin and was taken from the Sherman Victory statue installed in New York City several years earlier in 1903; by September 1907, Homer Saint-Gaudens, the sculptor's only son, was fully aware of the designs of the \$10 and \$20, which had been nearly completed by that time]. Mr. Saint-Gaudens was not sure which.

"There had been many other models for coins, and he did not see why so much fuss should be made over this one, but at any rate he was not going to add to it by giving any other information...."

Mary Cunningham was a figment of someone's imagination. No such person was ever involved in the coinage design.

The With-Periods Rarities of 1907

In autumn 1907 the Mint produced two special varieties of the new Saint-Gaudens Indian design. These had a round dot or period added before and after the inscriptions on the reverse. One variety had a sharp "wire" or "knife" rim, as offered in the present sale, and the other had a rounded or normal rim.

While these have been popularly called patterns, an examination of the situation leaves no room for any conclusion other than that these were "special" coins produced not as patterns, but for the profit of Mint employees and favored others. A pattern is a design proposal made in very small numbers to test the motif—often involving adjustments made by the engraver, etc., before coins are struck for circulation. In the present instance, the "special" 1907 coins with periods were placed in the hands of Mint personnel who were free to keep them as souvenirs or sell them at a profit.

Struck as delicacies for the numismatic trade, these \$10 coins were "filtered" out of the Mint and into the hands of receptive coin dealers including Henry Chapman and Thomas L. Elder, both of whom had quantities on hand for years afterward.

At the Mint at the time a number of delicacies were produced by assistant engraver George T. Morgan (who seems to have been in charge of distributing most of the rare MCMVII Ultra High Relief pattern double eagles and who is known to have made special Proof strikings of silver dollars in 1921-2, as evidenced by documented Proof dollars sold with the Norweb Collection; also described and illustrated in *The American Numismatic Association Centennial Anthology*, 1991, in a feature by Andrew W. Pollock III).

The pieces were "given to" officials and key employees and even the director in Washington (see below). However, the Mint never announced how the "ordinary" numismatist could obtain one. The whole affair was shrouded in secrecy.

Henry Chapman

On February 28, 1908, Henry Chapman, who one way or another had acquired a number of pieces for private sale to his clients, furnished Baltimore collector Robert Garrett with information concerning the 1907 gold issues (as quoted by QDB in *The History of United States Coins as Illustrated by the Garrett Collection*. Original correspondence preserved by The Johns Hopkins University; Robert Garrett, a son of the late T. Harrison Garrett, inherited his father's collection and in a dilatory manner added specimens here and there including that under discussion here in the Chapman correspondence):

"I wish to give you some information. If you will act quickly upon it I think we will secure for you a couple of coins which are worth large sums. In fact, I have paid \$150 cash for one of them myself.

"The director of the Mint, Mr. Frank A. Leach, at Washington, has in his possession, and is distributing at face value, to collectors or public museums, to the latter he writes me more especially than to the former, special \$10 pieces of the Saint-Gaudens design, 1907.

"If you will write him and ask him to send you a specimen of the \$10 gold piece, Saint Gaudens design 1907, from die No. 1 without any border, and die No. 2 with a wire or thin edge, you might say to him that you have been informed that he has a few of these for distribution to collections which are exhib-

ited to the public. I would tell him that your collection is on exhibition at Princeton College and that you would like to have him send you them.

"Send him \$20 in gold notes and 12¢ in postage stamps, and I think you will succeed. Do not mention my name or your source of information. Of the coin without the border, 500 were made, of number 2 only 50 were kept out of several thousand that were minted. The rest were melted. As he has but a few of the wire edge, which he refuses to let me have a specimen of, I would suggest that you write immediately upon receipt of this. If you can bring to bear any influence of your senator or congressman, it might be well to do so, but I think that it is possible you will get them without bringing anyone else into the matter, which might cause delay. If you succeed in getting them, you are going to get two coins worth \$400...."

In his autobiography, *Recollections of a Newspaperman*, 1917, Leach breezily stated that these pieces "were given" to officials and others (here excerpted):

"In producing the new \$10 pieces, or eagles, three models of the new design were made by Saint-Gaudens. Five hundred trial pieces were struck from the first model, and 34,100 pieces were struck from the second model, but all of this [second] lot were subsequently remelted, except 42 coins, which with those of the first lot [the 500 "Wire Rim" coins] were given to museums of art and officials and others connected with the work...."

It would be interesting to know how many "museums of art" actually received such coins!

The 1907 "Wire Rim" and the rarer "Rolled (or Rounded) Rim" pieces soon came onto the numismatic market and were a staple in the auctions of Thomas L. Elder and other dealers.

Regarding the number known, for the "Wire Rim" the usual mintage figure given years ago was 550, but in recent times the number 500 has been used—probably due to a typographical error (for, so far as is known, no new information became available). As to the number of "Rolled (or Rounded) Rim" pieces, Mint Director Leach's figure of 42 is often cited as is the number 50. The true figure is anybody's guess, but it must have been small.

Characteristics of the 1907 Wire Rim \$10

Contemporary mintage figures vary slightly, with 500 or 550 being usually cited—the former now being the most often quoted. The truth will probably never be known.

I estimate that from the preceding mintage about 325 to 375 exist today. Most are semi-lustrous, a hybrid between matte and mint frost. These constitute the majority of the stated original mintage. These numismatic delicacies met with a fine reception in the beginning, and which today is in unprecedented demand as one of the finest representations of the beautiful Saint-Gaudens design.

In his *Encyclopedia*, Walter Breen offered this tribute: "The very first of these [the wire rim issues] are the only available gold \$10s showing the Saint-Gaudens conceptions in anywhere near their pristine splendor...."

All are from the same pair of dies, which under examination exhibit a multitude of tiny swirls or die-finishing lines. The motif differs from the circulation issue in that there are raised periods before and after the reverse inscriptions, the "With Periods" variety. On this issue the rim of the coin is raised, thus "Wire Rim," earlier generally called "Wire Edge." The term "knife rim" or "knife edge" has been used occasionally, including in early listings, and is the style preferred by Walter Breen. At the Mint the term fin was typically used to denote a wire rim, although the writer has not encountered this in specific connection with production of the 1907 \$10 coins.

All specimens are of pleasing appearance, but from dies that are not extremely detailed on the higher areas. Some pieces show weakness in areas, but this is not obvious. All have the same finish, which is now generally called "Mint State," but in the past has been sometimes designated as Proof. Over the years descriptions have varied. Take your pick. There seems to be no right or wrong. However, the finish of all pieces was in the dies; the coins received no "sand-blast" or other later treatment.

- 292 1907 No Periods. MS-64. A satiny, matte-like Indian eagle. Honey gold with rose highlights and intense cartwheel lustre. Superb eye appeal for the grade. The general public—and most numismatist as well—had to be satisfied with the variety offered here, for the preceding rarities were not generally available unless one had "connections."



- 293 1908 Motto. MS-63. Pale honey gold with strong lustre.



- 294 **1908-D Motto. MS-62.** Lustrous and satiny with rose iridescence on the high points.
- 295 **Pair of eagles grading net MS-60:** ☆ 1909 ☆ 1913. Both have been cleaned at one time, both are finer for sharpness. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 296 **Trio of branch mint eagles grading net AU-55:** ☆ 1909-D ☆ 1910-D ☆ 1916-S. Each has been cleaned at one time AU-58 for sharpness. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 297 **1910 MS-63.** Lustrous honey gold with bright golden highlights.
- 298 **Pair of Mint State certified eagles:** ☆ 1910-S MS-61 (ANACS). Lustrous with rose highlights on both surfaces ☆ 1915 MS-62 (PCGS). Lustrous with some verdigris visible on both obverse and reverse. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 299 **Quartette of Indian eagles:** ☆ 1911 AU-58. Brilliant lustrous yellow surfaces ☆ 1914 AU-58. Lustrous yellow surfaces ☆ 1914-D AU-55. Lustrous with splashes of reddish gold at the peripheries ☆ 1915 AU-58. Lustrous. (Total: 4 pieces)
- 300 **1912 MS-62.** Satiny orange-gold with intense cartwheel lustre.

Beautiful 1916-S Eagle



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 301 **1916-S MS-64 (PCGS).** A beautiful specimen, well struck with the reverse, graded separately, meriting MS-65. Warm, rich gold with deep lustre. A treat to the eye. One of the nicest we have had in recent years.

- 302 **Pair of eagles grading MS-62:** ☆ 1926. Satiny yellow with splashes of rose ☆ 1932. Lustrous with hints of rose on both surfaces. (Total: 2 pieces)

Satiny Gem 1932 \$10



- 303 **1932 MS-65 (PCGS).** A satiny gem with intense olive and rose iridescence on both sides. A pretty Indian eagle.
- 304 **1932 MS-62 (PCGS).** Lustrous orange-gold with a whisper of olive iridescence.

DOUBLE EAGLES

- 305 **Pair of double eagles:** ☆ 1851 Net VF-20 ☆ 1858-S Net VF-35. Both are finer for sharpness. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 306 **1855 EF-45.** Light yellow gold. Popular early date.
- 307 **1855-S EF-45 (PCGS).** Honey gold surfaces show a touch of mint lustre in the recessed areas. A popular early double eagle from the second year of San Francisco Mint coinage production.
- 308 **1855-S EF-45.** Generous amounts of lustre on orange-gold surfaces. Some deeper toning is seen on the high points. A few scattered marks are present, but the overall "look" is quite nice for this early branch mint double eagle.
- 309 **1857-S AU-50 (PCGS).** Bright yellow gold with some honey gold highlights. A scattering of tiny surface marks is seen on both sides. This date was heavily represented in the treasure from the *S.S. Central America*, and nice examples such as the present coin are highly affordable as a result.
- 310 **1859-S VF-30.** A well worn but still pleasing example of a popular branch mint issue. A hint of lustre remains among the peripheral devices.
- 311 **1861 EF-40.** Medium honey gold with generous amounts of lustre present.
- 312 **Pair of double eagles:** ☆ 1861 VF-30. Yellow gold surfaces ☆ 1875-S EF-40. Golden rose. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 313 **1868-S EF-45 (PCGS).** Generous amounts of mint lustre remain on pleasing honey gold surfaces.
- 314 **1870-S EF-45 (PCGS).** Lustrous in the recessed areas, with rose iridescence present there as well.
- 315 **Trio of double eagles:** ☆ 1870-S EF-40. Splashes of rose mostly on the obverse. Several marks on both surfaces with some verdigris ☆ 1877 AU-55. Lustrous ☆ 1879 AU-50. Subdued surfaces. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 316 **1871-S AU-53 (PCGS).** A lustrous honey gold example of the date. Choice for the grade.

- 317 1873 Open 3. AU-55. Strong and impressive lustre on satiny olive-gold surfaces. A whisper of rose iridescence graces the reverse. An intriguing variety, with LIBERTY boldly doubled on Liberty's coronet.
- 318 1873 Open 3. AU-53 (PCGS). Lustrous honey gold with deeper highlights on the high points.



- 319 1873-CC Net EF-45; sharpness of AU-50, brushed. Much original mint lustre in the protected areas. A coin that should be seen to be appreciated.
From our Kingswood Galleries Sale, August 1990, Lot 7335.
- 320 1874-CC AU-50 (NGC). Light yellow gold. Some lustre remains in protected areas. Popular Carson City variety.
- 321 1874-CC VF-35 (PCGS). Some mint lustre present on honey gold surfaces. Deeper toning is seen on the high points. A popular date, grade, and mint combination.
- 322 1874-S AU-58 (NGC). Lustrous and satiny olive-gold surfaces. Choice for the grade; the reverse could easily be called Mint State.
- 323 Trio of double eagles: ☆ 1874-S AU-50. Red-gold in the protected areas ☆ 1877-S AU-55. Lustrous yellow surfaces ☆ 1895 MS-60. Lustrous surfaces. (Total: 3 pieces)

Mint State 1875-CC \$20



- 324 1875-CC MS-60. Satiny olive-gold with a high degree of lustre and strong aesthetic appeal for the assigned grade. Close CC variety. The obverse portrait of Liberty is somewhat frosty, forming a pleasing (if somewhat light) cameo contrast with the satiny field. Scarce and desirable at this grade.

The chronicles of the Carson City Mint from this era are quite fascinating, especially with relation to correspondence, reports, and contemporary newspaper accounts. Curiously, there was a strong competition between the much larger San Francisco Mint and the relatively small Carson City Mint. In the era of railroad barons and rate setting shenanigans (not that such don't exist today with commodities, airline passenger tickets, etc.), it was less expensive to ship bullion from Virginia City, Nevada, at the Comstock Lode, to the San Francisco Mint for coinage, rather than 15 miles away to the Carson City Mint! The fact that Abe Curry, of the Gould & Curry gold and silver mill in Virginia City was superintendent of the Carson City Mint might have set well with friends of Curry, but this was a great negative to other producers, who were not about to give him credit for anything.

Regarding Carson City gold coins, from what we have been able to determine, nearly all of the issues of 1870 to 1872, today quite scarce, circulated primarily in the general territory of Nevada, with relatively few, if any, being specifically dated for export. Later, the situation changed.

- 325 1875-CC AU-50 (PCGS). Generous amounts of lustre and rose iridescence in the protected areas. Another popular issue from the Carson City coinage facility.
- 326 1875-CC EF-45 (NGC). Another available Carson City issue—perhaps a stepping stone to building a nearly complete set for your cabinet.
- 327 1875-S MS-60 (PCGS). A high degree of lustre graces fully brilliant orange-gold surfaces. Somewhat reflective in the fields. Much finer to the eye than the typical double eagle in MS-60, and worth a premium as such.
- 328 Trio of San Francisco double eagles: ☆ 1875-S AU-55 ☆ 1876-S AU-58 ☆ 1888-S EF-45. Each having lustrous surfaces. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 329 1876-CC EF-40 (PCGS). Honey gold with deeper golden highlights. A popular date in a highly collectible grade.
- 330 1876-S AU-53 (PCGS). Lustrous rose and orange-gold surfaces.
- 331 1877-CC EF-45 (PCGS). Deep honey gold surfaces with splashes of orange iridescence. A pleasing example for the grade.
- 332 1877-CC VF-30 (PCGS). Medium gold with deeper highlights. A scarce issue; only 42,565 double eagles of the date were struck.
- 333 1877-S MS-61 (NGC). Delightfully bright olive-gold with the appeal of a slightly finer grade.
- 334 Trio of branch mint double eagles: ☆ 1877-S AU-58 ☆ 1904-S AU-55 ☆ 1906-S AU-50. Each is lustrous and attractive. (Total: 3 pieces)

Low-Mintage 1878-CC \$20



- 335 1878-CC AU-50 (ANACS). A lustrous medium gold specimen of a scarce and popular date. The reverse is chiefly prooflike. A few stray marks are seen, but the overall quality is strong for the grade.
- 336 1880-S AU-58 (NGC). Brilliant and lustrous.
- 337 1882-CC AU-50 (NGC). Plenty of lustre and a touch of rose toning on medium gold surfaces. Scarce and popular.
- 338 1882-S MS-60 (PCGS). Fully brilliant and equally lustrous.
- 339 1883-CC EF-45 (PCGS). Generous amounts of lustre on deep golden surfaces. Somewhat prooflike with olive toning highlights.
- 340 1884-CC VF-30 (PCGS). Medium gold with deep rose on the high points.



- 341 **1889 MS-62 (NGC).** Satiny and lustrous medium gold with a touch of olive iridescence.
- 342 **Pair of double eagles grading AU-58:** ☆ 1890 ☆ 1895. Both with lustrous surfaces and whispers of rose toning. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 343 **1890-CC AU-50 (PCGS).** Warm medium gold with strong lustre in the recessed areas. Popular in all grades.
- 344 **1892-CC AU-50 (NGC).** Medium honey gold with deep violet toning highlights on the reverse. A popular low-mintage date; just 27,265 examples were produced.
- 345 **1892-S MS-62 (PCGS).** Iridescent olive surfaces with bright rose contrast. An attractive coin.
- 346 **1893 MS-62 (PCGS).** Satiny honey gold with strong cartwheel lustre. Choice for the grade.
- 347 **1893 MS-62.** Satiny surfaces display strong cartwheel lustre. Bright honey gold with light rose overtones. Choice for the grade.
From our sale of the Sussex Collection, Jun 1990, Lot 2403.
- 348 **1893-CC AU-58 (NGC).** Somewhat prooflike olive-gold fields support frosty yellow gold devices. A pleasing coin from the final year of Carson City Mint coinage operations.
- 349 **1894 MS-63 (ICG).** Satiny olive-gold with strong lustre and pale rose iridescence.
- 350 **Trio of double eagles grading MS-60:** ☆ 1894 ☆ 1897 ☆ 1899. Each is attractive with minute spots of verdigris noted on each. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 351 **1894-S MS-62 (PCGS).** Satiny olive-gold with intense lustre and well defined design details. Absolutely choice for the grade; a single iota more quality and this would be called MS-63.
Although the PCGS holder annotates Bass on its label, we are not certain which particular part of the Bass Collection the coin originated from. No individual examples of the date were offered in any of the four parts of that sale, although some group lots of double eagles were offered that contained MS-62 graded coins. This lovely coin is evidently one of those specimens.
- 352 **1895 MS-62 (NGC).** Intense cartwheel lustre on bright honey gold surfaces. Somewhat prooflike. An attractive coin for the grade.
- 353 **Pair of double eagles grading MS-62 (PCGS):** ☆ 1896-S ☆ 1908-D No Motto. Both have lustrous and attractive surfaces. (Total: 2 pieces)

- 354 **1897-S MS-63 (NGC).** Light yellow gold. Lustrous and satiny with delicate toning. Splendid in every respect.
- 355 **1897-S MS-62 (PCGS).** Medium yellow gold. Highly lustrous with some light toning.
- 356 **1898-S MS-62 (PCGS).** Light yellow gold. Lustrous and attractive.
- 357 **1899 MS-63 (PCGS).** Lustrous olive-gold.
- 358 **1900 MS-62 (PCGS).** A definite winner at the assigned grade, highly lustrous and decidedly choice. Brilliant golden orange with traces of rose iridescence.
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 359 **Trio of MS-62 (PCGS) double eagles:** ☆ 1900. Lustrous orange-gold surfaces ☆ 1904. Lustrous yellow surfaces ☆ 1904-S. Lustrous and attractive. (Total: 3 pieces)
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 360 **Trio of double eagles grading AU-58:** ☆ 1900 ☆ 1922 ☆ 1923. Each with subdued golden rose surfaces. (Total: 3 pieces)

Gem 1901 Double Eagle



- 361 **1901 MS-65 (PCGS).** Satiny lustre with delicate warm gold surfaces. A splendid specimen of this popular date, ideal for a type set.
- 362 **1901-S MS-61 (PCGS).** Bright and lustrous honey gold.
- 363 **Pair of double eagles:** ☆ 1901-S AU-50. A few scratches are noted on the obverse ☆ 1904 AU-55. Lustrous yellow with hints of rose. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 364 **1903 MS-64 (NGC).** Lustrous and brilliant.
- 365 **1903 MS-63 (NGC).** Medium honey gold with a splash of rose iridescence.
- 366 **Pair of PCGS double eagles grading MS-62:** ☆ 1903. Lustrous and attractive surfaces ☆ 1904. Lustrous with a couple of trivial copper toning areas noted. (Total: 2 pieces)
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 367 **1903-S MS-63 (NGC).** A highly reflective and equally highly lustrous example of a popular branch mint issue. Somewhat prooflike on both sides.

Choice Proof 1904 \$20 Rarity



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 368 **1904 Proof-64 (PCGS).** A lovely specimen of this great rarity, one of just 98 struck, of which perhaps 60 to 75 exist today, usually in grades lower than this. On all authentic Proofs, including this, the portrait was lightly polished in the die, but not as much on 1904 as on 1902 and, especially, 1903. This characteristic is true of most other Proofs of the era. Apparently someone new at Proof-making was in charge. Such distinctions make the collecting of these coins even more interesting.

Lustrous Gem 1904 \$20



- 369 **1904 MS-65 (NGC).** A gem specimen in warm yellow gold with hints of richer gold toning. A very nice example for type.

- 370 **1904 MS-64 (PCGS).** Satiny and lustrous olive-gold. Not a rarity, but certainly attractive. "A lot of coin for the money" in today's market.
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 371 **1904 MS-64 (PCGS).** Lustrous honey gold.
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 372 **1904 MS-64 (PCGS).** Lustrous rose-gold.
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 373 **1904 MS-64 (NGC).** Brilliant and lustrous. One of the more popular dates.
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 374 **1904 MS-64 (NGC).** Brilliant and lustrous. Another example of this exceedingly popular double eagle date and mint.
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 375 **1904 MS-64 (NGC).** Brilliant and lustrous. Yet another specimen.
We suggest our One Lot Only option explained under our Terms of Sale. In that way you can compete for multiple examples but be assured of winning no more than a single specimen.
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 376 **Pair of 1904 double eagles grading MS-64 (PCGS).** Each is lustrous with just hint of olive-green frost at the peripheries. (Total: 2 pieces)
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 377 **Trio of 1904 double eagles grading MS-64 (PCGS).** Each is brilliant and lustrous. (Total: 3 pieces)
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 378 **Pair of 1904 double eagles grading MS-64 (NGC).** Both are brilliant and lustrous with attractive orange-gold surfaces. (Total: 2 pieces)
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 379 **Trio of double eagles grading MS-64:** ☆ 1904 (PCGS) ☆ 1924 (PCGS) ☆ 1927 (NGC). (Total: 3 pieces)
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 380 **1904 MS-63 (PCGS).** Lustrous and reflective olive-gold.
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 381 **Pair of 1904 double eagles grading MS-63 (NGC).** One is brilliant and lustrous and one is lustrous with verdigris visible on the reverse. (Total: 2 pieces)
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.

Glittering Gold Group

- 382 **Quartette of MS-63 (PCGS) double eagles:** ☆ 1904 (2) ☆ 1924 (2). Each is lustrous and attractive. (Total: 4 pieces)
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 383 **Trio of double eagles grading MS-63 (PCGS):** ☆ 1904 (2) ☆ 1924. Each is brilliant and lustrous. (Total: 3 pieces)
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 384 **Trio of double eagles grading MS-63 (PCGS):** ☆ 1904 ☆ 1924 ☆ 1927. All have lustrous orange-gold surfaces. (Total: 3 pieces)

We venture to say that today in 2001 more people are collecting double eagles than ever before in the history of numismatics. This is due to several confluences, including attractively low prices for some of the less rare dates—such as those offered in this lot—plus publicity brought to the series with the distribution of the 1857-S and other early issues from the treasure of the *U.S. Central America*. A perusal of the double eagle series reveals that perhaps 80% of the dates and mints from 1850 through 1929 are readily available at prices ranging

from less than \$1,000 per coin, with some being just a few hundred dollars each. If this specialty intrigues you, the present offering of pieces from the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection and other sources is an ideal way to get started!

From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.

- 385 **Trio of double eagles grading MS-63 (PCGS):** ☆ 1904. Lustrous ☆ 1924. Satiny ☆ 1927. Brilliant and lustrous. (Total: 3 pieces)

From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.

- 386 **Quartette of 1904 double eagles grading MS-62 (PCGS).** Each with lustrous and attractive surfaces. (Total: 4 pieces)

From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.

- 387 **Quartette of 1904 double eagles grading MS-62 (PCGS).** One is brilliant and lustrous while the others are lustrous and have delicate frost at the peripheries. (Total: 4 pieces)

From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.

- 388 **Trio of 1904 double eagles MS-62 (PCGS).** Each is lustrous with one having a touch of verdigris on the reverse. (Total: 3 pieces)

From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.

- 389 **Trio of double eagles MS-62 (PCGS):** ☆ 1904. Lustrous yellow ☆ 1922. Brilliant and lustrous surfaces ☆ 1924. Satiny yellow surfaces. (Total: 3 pieces)

From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.

- 390 **Quintette of MS-62 PCGS double eagles:** ☆ 1904. Frosty lustre ☆ 1908 No Motto. Orange-gold surfaces ☆ 1922. Splashes of soft copper spotting noted on both surfaces ☆ 1924. Yellow surfaces ☆ 1927. Lustrous with minor soft copper toning noted on both surfaces. (Total: 5 pieces)

From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.

- 391 **Quartette of MS-62 (PCGS) double eagles:** ☆ 1904. Brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1908 No Motto. Lustrous ☆ 1923. Lustrous rose-gold surfaces ☆ 1924. Lustrous. (Total: 4 pieces)

From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.

- 392 **Trio of double eagles grading MS-62 (PCGS):** ☆ 1904. Brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1908 No Motto. Lustrous ☆ 1924. Lustrous. (Total: 3 pieces)

From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.

- 393 **Trio of double eagles grading MS-62 (PCGS):** ☆ 1904. Brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1908 No Motto. Subdued yellow surfaces with rose highlights ☆ 1924. Brilliant and lustrous. (Total: 3 pieces)

From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.

- 394 **Trio of MS-62 (NGC) double eagles:** ☆ 1904 ☆ 1914 ☆ 1924. Each have lustrous surface. (Total: 3 pieces)

From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.

- 395 **Pair of double eagles grading MS-62 (NGC):** ☆ 1904. Satiny lustre ☆ 1914-S. Lustrous. (Total: 2 pieces)

From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.

- 396 **Trio of double eagles grading MS-62 (NGC):** ☆ 1904 (2). Both have lustrous and attractive surfaces ☆ 1915-S. Brilliant and lustrous. (Total: 3 pieces)

From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.

- 397 **Pair of MS-62 (PCGS) double eagles:** ☆ 1904. Satiny yellow surfaces ☆ 1924. Lustrous with reverse planchet flaws noted. Nice examples of the MS-62 grade level. (Total: 2 pieces)

From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.

- 398 **Pair of double eagles grading MS-61:** ☆ 1904. Lustrous yellow surfaces with just a few splashes of faint copper toning visible ☆ 1908 No Motto. MS-61. Lustrous frosty surfaces. (Total: 2 pieces)

- 399 1904-S MS-62 (NGC). Lustrous olive-gold with some deeper toning on the reverse.

- 400 **Trio of double eagles:** ☆ 1904-S MS-60 ☆ 1908 No Motto. AU-58 ☆ 1914-S MS-60. Each is lustrous and attractive. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 401 1905 AU-58 (ANACS). Lustrous rose-gold. A scarce and elusive Philadelphia Mint issue, especially so in Mint State grades. Truth be told, AU-58 is about as spectacular a grade as can be attained for this date.

- 402 1906-S MS-62 (PCGS). Satiny and lustrous honey gold with a splash of olive iridescence.

- 403 1907 Liberty. MS-63 (NGC). Lustrous rose-gold.

Rare Mint State 1907-S \$20

Choice and Beautiful



- 404 1907-S MS-64 (PCGS). Brilliant and highly lustrous. Very elusive in choice, nearly gem Mint State preservation. As such, the connoisseur will want to "stretch" to acquire this, secure in the knowledge that few exist.

- 405 1907-S MS-63 (PCGS). A satiny and lustrous rose-gold example of the date. Splashes of iridescent sky blue grace the high points. The final branch mint issue in the Liberty double eagle series.

- 406 1907-S MS-62 (PCGS). Intense cartwheel lustre on bright rose-gold surfaces. If graded solely by the reverse, the overall grade would be substantially higher.

Uncirculated MCMVII High Relief \$20

America's Most Beautiful Rarity



- 407 **MCMVII (1907) High Relief. Flat Rim. MS-62 (PCGS).** Bright yellow highlights on satiny honey gold surfaces. Pleasing for the grade, with the overall appeal of a finer grade. A truly delightful example of the collaboration between President Theodore Roosevelt and artist Augustus Saint-Gaudens, an issue that is considered by many to be the epitome of United States coin design. Worthy of serious bidder response.

The Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site, Cornish, New Hampshire, is a delightful place to visit during the warmer months of the year. If your travel plans include New England we strongly suggest that you make this a "must" stop on your itinerary. The studio displays many items of numismatic interest includ

ing sketches and plaster models illustrating the intention of the artist to redesign the entire American coinage from the cent to the double eagle. However, ill health intervened, and Saint-Gaudens did not live to see any of his designs actually reach final form, although he was able to view nearly complete representations of his \$10 and \$20 pieces. It fell to Henry Hering, his assistant, to complete the models.

The story of the genesis of this issue is quite interesting, and if the successful purchaser of this lot does not have a copy of Dave Bowers' book, *United States Gold Coins: An Illustrated History*, we would be delighted to send one with our compliments, if requested.

Attractive MCMVII High Relief \$20



- 408 **MCMVII (1907) High Relief. Wire Rim. MS-62 (PCGS).** Rich yellow gold. An exceedingly pleasing piece, one which might well bring "MS-63 money," as it certainly is at the upper end of the MS-62 level, to say the very least. We have laid eyes upon quite a few High Relief double eagles in our time, and this is certainly one of the more attractive.

Desirable MCMVII High Relief \$20



- 409 **MCMVII (1907) High Relief. Flat Rim. AU-58.** A highly lustrous and satiny yellow gold specimen with the overall aesthetic appeal of a much finer grade. A beautiful example of a beautiful design type; this is what collecting coins is all about! This dynamic specimen will undoubtedly fulfill a double purpose for its new owner: pride of ownership of such a classic coin, coupled with the fact that it was purchased for less than an equally appealing Mint State coin would sell for! A golden opportunity awaits.



- 410 **1908 No Motto. Wells Fargo Hoard. MS-66 (PCGS).** A satiny, brilliant gem with a whisper of pale rose iridescence. A superb gem with outstanding eye appeal and strong physical appeal as well.

From the so-called "Wells Fargo Hoard" dispersed a few years ago, amounting to about 20,000 Mint State pieces of this variety. The "Wells Fargo" designation is said to have been derived from the pieces being stored at one time in a branch of that banking institution, still active and dynamic today (and proprietor of a delightful museum of Western Americana in San Francisco—well worth a visit).

From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.



- 411 **1908 No Motto. Wells Fargo Hoard. MS-66 (PCGS).** Another satiny and lustrous gem from the Wells Fargo Hoard.
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.



- 412 **1908 No Motto. Wells Fargo Hoard. MS-66 (PCGS).** Yet another satiny gem Mint State double eagle from the Wells Fargo Hoard.
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.



- 413 **1908 No Motto. Wells Fargo Hoard. MS-66 (PCGS).** Satiny rose-gold surfaces. Another gem from the Wells Fargo Hoard.
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.



- 414 **1908 No Motto. Wells Fargo Hoard. MS-66 (PCGS).** Satiny rose-gold surfaces.
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.



- 415 **1908 No Motto. Wells Fargo Hoard. MS-66 (PCGS).** Satiny honey-gold with strong lustre. A pleasing gem.
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.



- 416 1908 No Motto. Wells Fargo Hoard. MS-66 (PCGS). Brilliant and lustrous.

From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.



- 417 1908 No Motto. Wells Fargo Hoard. MS-66 (PCGS). Brilliant and lustrous. Another lovely specimen from this storied cache of double eagles.

From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.



- 418 1908 No Motto. Wells Fargo Hoard. MS-66 (PCGS). Brilliant and lustrous. Yet another nice "Wells Fargo" piece with connotations of the American West—although by the 20th century, when these pieces were stored there, the shoot-em-up era had passed, and the institution had settled down to normal banking, more or less.

From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.

- 419 1908 No Motto. MS-63 (NGC). Light yellow toning.

- 420 1908 No Motto. MS-63 (NGC). Yet another specimen of this exceedingly popular issue.

- 421 1908 No Motto. MS-63. Warm honey gold.

- 422 1908-D No Motto. AU-58 (ANACS). Highly lustrous and quite attractive. Rarer than its Philadelphia Mint cousin.

- 423 **Pair of double eagles:** ☆ 1908-D Motto. AU-55. Orange-gold surfaces ☆ 1923 MS-62. Lustrous surfaces with a reverse spot noted. (Total: 2 pieces)

- 424 **Pair of Mint State double eagles:** ☆ 1911 MS-62 (NGC). Lustrous ☆ 1913-D MS-63 (NGC). Brilliant and lustrous. (Total: 2 pieces)

Gem 1911-S Double Eagle



- 425 1911-S MS-65 (NGC). Lustrous light yellow gold. Nicely struck. A splendid specimen of a variety which when seen is usually at a lower grade level. Worthy of a bid from the double eagle enthusiast.

- 426 1911-S MS-64 (NGC). Lustrous and attractive. Light yellow gold surfaces.

Highly Prized 1913-S \$20



- 427 1913-S MS-64 (PCGS). Brilliant and lustrous. Nicely struck. A high-grade example of this highly prized, low-mintage Saint-Gaudens double eagle, a quality not often seen. We expect great bidding enthusiasm as it crosses the block.

- 428 1915 MS-62 (NGC). Lustrous olive-gold.

- 429 1915-S MS-65 (PCGS). Warm yellow gold. Brilliant and lustrous, a treat to the eye!

This offering presents an opportunity to acquire many different date and mintmark varieties of double eagles among Liberty Head and Saint-Gaudens types, taking advantage of current market prices which by any accounting are quite reasonable in relation to figures of an earlier time.

Gem Mint State 1922 \$20



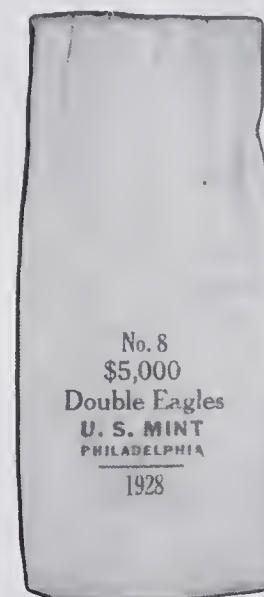
- 430 1922 MS-65 (NGC). Intense cartwheel lustre on delightfully brilliant surfaces. A no-holds-barred gem!

- 431 1924 MS-66 (PCGS). A frosty gem with bright rose highlights on honey gold surfaces.

From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection

- 432 **1924 MS-65 (PCGS).** Brilliant and lustrous. One of the more popular dates in the 1920s.
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 433 **1924 MS-65 (NGC).** A lustrous honey gold gem.
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 434 **1924 MS-65 (NGC).** Lustrous olive-gold.
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 435 **Pair of MS-65 (NGC) double eagles:** ☆ 1924. Lovely lustrous golden rose surfaces ☆ 1927. Brilliant and lustrous. (Total: 2 pieces)
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 436 **Pair of double eagles grading MS-65 (NGC):** ☆ 1924. Lustrous with a few faint copper spots noted on both surfaces ☆ 1927. Brilliant and lustrous. (Total: 2 pieces)
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 437 **Pair of double eagles grading MS-65 (NGC):** ☆ 1924. Frosty lustre with hints of rose ☆ 1927. Lustrous. (Total: 2 pieces)
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 438 **Trio of Saint-Gaudens double eagles grading MS-65 (NGC):** ☆ 1924 ☆ 1927 ☆ 1928. Each is brilliant and lustrous. A very lovely grouping. (Total: 3 pieces)
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 439 **Trio of 1924 double eagles grading MS-62 (PCGS).** Each is lustrous and attractive with just a whisper of delicate rose. (Total: 3 pieces)
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 440 **Trio of double eagles grading MS-62 (PCGS):** ☆ 1924 (2) ☆ 1926. Each with lustrous and attractive surfaces. (Total: 3 pieces)
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 441 **1925 MS-65 (PCGS).** Satiny, matte like rose-gold with strong lustre and equally strong eye appeal.
- 442 **Pair of double eagles MS-64 (PCGS):** ☆ 1926 ☆ 1927. Each is brilliant and lustrous. (Total: 2 pieces)
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 443 **1927 MS-65 (NGC).** Lustrous honey gold.
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.
- 444 **1928 MS-66 (PCGS).** A delightfully satiny gem with strong mint lustre.
From the Great Southwest Gold and Silver Collection.

Original Canvas Mint Bag



- 445 **Cloth bag used at one time to store and ship 1928 double eagles, and so imprinted.** The first we have seen. No doubt this will be a show piece in the collection of a double eagle specialist. Where, possibly, could another be found for any price?

COMMEMORATIVE SILVER COINS

- 446 **1893 Isabella quarter. MS-64 (PCGS).** A highly desirable example with fully brilliant satiny lustre and a whisper of champagne toning.
- 447 **1900 Lafayette silver dollar. MS-63 (PCGS).** Sharply struck with satiny ivory lustre and very few minor abrasions. Seldom seen in choice or gem quality with most survivors either circulated or Mint State with impairment. A popular issue for specialists or type collectors, as well as the casual collector searching for interesting coins with stories.
- 448 **1937 Antietam. MS-65 (PCGS).** This is a wonderful example with satiny lustre and ivory central obverse and reverse. Light and attractive peripheral toning remains from storage in the original cardboard holder of issue.
- 449 **1937 Antietam. MS-65.** This exceptional gem has deep ivory lustre with extraordinary "tab" toning presenting olive and amber. A sharply struck example sure to please the toning enthusiast.
- 450 **Quartette of commemorative half dollars grading MS-64 (PCGS):** ☆ 1936-D Arkansas. Lovely rose-gray over lustrous surfaces ☆ 1936-S Arkansas. Softly mottled rose, gray, and gold over lustrous surfaces ☆ 1924 Maine. Soft golden gray surfaces ☆ 1925 Stone Mountain. Lustrous golden surfaces with a toning spot noted on the obverse. (Total: 4 pieces)
- 451 **1938-D Arkansas Centennial. MS-65 (ICG).** Lustrous silver surfaces with pleasing pearlescent champagne toning.
- 452 **1936-S Bay Bridge. MS-66.** An interesting example with mostly deep lilac-gray toning on the obverse, highlighted by peripheral iridescence. The reverse is fully brilliant with ivory lustre and delightful russet and amber at the border.

- 453 Quartette of commemorative half dollars: ☆ 1935-D Boone, MS-65 ☆ 1936 Cleveland, MS-64 ☆ 1936 Elgin, MS-65 ☆ 1916-S Booker T. Washington, MS-64. Each with various degrees of mottled rainbow toning. (Total: 4 pieces)
- 454 **Trio of commemorative half dollars grading MS-65 (PCGS):** ☆ 1936 Cleveland. Satiny golden gray surfaces ☆ 1936 Long Island. Soft mottled gray toning on the obverse with deeper mottled gray and reddish brown on the reverse ☆ 1938 New Rochelle. Lustrous with splashes and flecks of soft golden toning. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 455 **Quartette of commemorative half dollars grading MS-65 (PCGS):** ☆ 1936 Cleveland. Lustrous golden surfaces with minute spotting noted ☆ 1934 Maryland. Lustrous rose surfaces ☆ 1935-S San Diego. Golden toning at the peripheries with minute spotting noted ☆ 1936 Texas. Lustrous mottled golden toning. (Total: 4 pieces)
- 456 1935 Connecticut Tercentenary, MS-65 (PCGS). Golden brown toning subdues otherwise attractive satiny lustre. An attractive example.
- 457 1936 Elgin, MS-66 (PCGS). Soft lustre is typical of all Mint State examples of this issue. The Mint was in close contact with the sculptor (Trygve A. Rovelstad) and the distributor (L. W. Hoffecker), and the result is that these particular commemoratives seem to have been more carefully handled than the typical issue of the era.
- 458 **1936 Gettysburg, MS-66.** Satiny lustre with very faint toning. A wonderful example of this popular Civil War related issue.
- 459 1936 Gettysburg, MS-65 (PCGS). Deeply toned with satiny lustre beneath pale gray toning and peripheral iridescence. A pleasing example for the Civil War enthusiast.
- 460 1936 Gettysburg, MS-65 (NGC). Ivory lustre is accented by splashes of deep gold and russet. An attractive example of this Civil War era issue. Collecting commemoratives related to the Civil War is an active and popular pursuit given the interest in the history of this monumental conflict.
- 461 **Trio of Mint State commemorative half dollars:** ☆ 1936 Gettysburg, MS-63. Lustrous and attractive with soft golden rose toning at the peripheries ☆ 1934 Maryland, MS-63. Golden gray toning over lustrous surfaces ☆ 1934 Texas, MS-64. Lustrous with soft pearl gray surfaces and hints of rose. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 462 Trio of commemorative half dollars: ☆ 1946 Iowa, MS-66 (PCGS). Satiny gray surfaces with minute spotting noted on the obverse ☆ 1937 Roanoke, MS-66 (NGC). Golden rose with splashes of gun-metal-blue ☆ 1937-S Texas MS-65 (NGC). Lustrous with traces of toning at the rims. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 463 **Quartette of commemorative half dollars grading MS-66:** ☆ 1946 Iowa. Rainbow toning at the peripheries ☆ 1937 Roanoke. Lustrous with traces of delicate toning ☆ 1935-S San Diego. Mixture of pale golden and soft pale blue at the peripheries ☆ 1936 York. Golden toning. (Total: 4 pieces)
- 464 Quartette of commemorative half dollars: ☆ 1936 Lynchburg, MS-65 (PCGS). Soft golden gray toning over lustrous surfaces ☆ 1920 Pilgrim, MS-64 (PCGS). Lustrous with delicate golden toning on both surfaces ☆ 1925 Stone Mountain, MS-65 (PCGS). Lustrous with faint splashes of golden toning ☆ 1946-S Booker T. Washington, MS-65 (PCGS). Lustrous with just a whisper of golden toning. (Total: 4 pieces)
- 465 1936 Norfolk Bicentennial, MS-67 (PCGS). Sharply struck with satiny ivory and pale gray lustre. A pleasing example for the commemorative type collector or specialist.
- 466 1936 Norfolk Bicentennial, MS-66 (PCGS). Deep gray surfaces with satiny lustre.
- 467 1926 Oregon Trail Memorial, MS-65 (PCGS). A lustrous gem with a whisper of pale golden toning. From the first year of the Oregon Trail commemorative half dollar series.
- 468 **Quartette of Oregon Trail commemoratives certified by PCGS:** ☆ 1926 MS-64. Lustrous with just a trace of gold ☆ 1937-D MS-64. Lustrous with soft golden brown toning at the peripheries ☆ 1938 MS-64. Golden gray surfaces ☆ 1938-S MS-66. Lustrous with a whisper of golden toning. (Total: 4 pieces)
- 469 1937-D Oregon Trail Memorial, MS-67 (NGC). Strong lustre on satiny, pale champagne surfaces.
- 470 **Trio of 1915-S Panama-Pacific commemorative coins:** ☆ Half dollar, AU-58. Rose-brown at the peripheries ☆ Gold dollar, Net EF-45; sharpness of AU-58, many obverse scratches ☆ Quarter eagle, Net AU-53; sharpness of AU-55, reverse digs. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 471 **1938 Texas Centennial PDS set grading MS-66.** Each is lustrous with various degrees of bright iridescent rainbow highlights. Housed in a Capital plastic holder. (Total: 3 pieces)
- The preceding is a remarkably high quality trio—the rarest of all Texas sets, and not often seen at such a high level.

Delightful Gem 1938-D Texas 50¢



- 472 **1938-D Texas Centennial, MS-67 (PCGS).** A satiny gem of the highest quality. Strong cartwheel lustre graces pale rose and iridescent sky blue surfaces. One of the key, low-mintage dates in the Texas series.
- 473 1925 Fort Vancouver Centennial, MS-64. This is a lovely example with fully brilliant silvery white lustre and a hint of rose toning. This specimen is certain to delight the next owner.
- From our sale of the George D. Hatie Collection, August 1983, Lot 1774.*

COMMEMORATIVE GOLD COINS

Mint State 1915-S Panama-Pacific \$50

Round Format



- 474 **1915-S Panama-Pacific Exposition \$50. Round. MS-62 (PCGS).** This lovely example has rich satiny yellow gold lustre with few very minor blemishes. Sharply struck with all details boldly defined. These large \$50 gold coins are quite rare with very limited original mintages. The original authorization for this issue called for a total mintage of 1,500 examples of each format. Sales were not nearly as expected, and although the full authorization was actually minted (including an additional 19 coins for assay purposes) a large portion was later melted with only 645 octagonal and 483 round examples actually distributed.

Panama-Pacific International Exposition

Among American expositions—which began with the Crystal Palace Exhibition in New York City in 1853 (a private venture, in which P.T. Barnum was deeply involved, inspired by the similarly named Crystal Palace Exhibition that opened in London in 1851)—several were great successes in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. From the standpoint of commemorative coinage, no such event has ever equaled the 1915 Panama-Pacific International Exposition in San Francisco held to celebrate the rebirth of the city after the 1906 earthquake and fire and the completion (in 1914) of the Panama Canal.

The buildings of the Exposition were arranged in three areas. Festival Hall and several large exhibition “palaces” furnished the center of activity, flanked to the west by buildings containing the exhibits of 44 states, several U.S. territories, and 36 foreign nations, a racetrack, and a livestock building, and to the east by the amusement midway and seemingly innumerable concessions.

Situated on 635 acres in Golden Gate Park in San Francisco, the Exposition cost about \$50 million, opened on February 20th and closed on December 4th, 1915, and drew an estimated 19 million visitors. The event was a smashing success by all standards. Curiously, especially in view of the spectacular array of commemorative coins produced in connection with the Exposition, the annual American Numismatic Association convention held that year in San Francisco was a dismal failure, and only a few delegates attended.

Art at the Exposition

More than any other fair before or since, the Panama-Pacific International Exposition was a showcase for the talents of American sculptors and artists. “Never before have sculptors anywhere so completely played their most important roles in the ensemble setting that constitutes our Exposition visually,” noted A. Sterling Calder, a sculptor who was in charge of the art displays, who went on to say that because of unfortunate financial constraints, the original \$600,000 “apportionment for sculptural enrichment” had to be cut to \$375,000. Nevertheless, the exhibits were spectacular. Among the artists whose works were shown were the following, who had been or were to be involved in the designs of regular or commemorative coins during the early 20th century: On exhibit was *The Scout*, a statue by Cyrus E. Dallin, who was to later do the models for the 1920 Pilgrim commemorative half dollar. John Flanagan, who never produced an accepted design for a commemorative coin but who was later known for the 1932 Washington quarter dollar, contributed several sculptures to the Exposition. Hermon A. MacNeil, who in 1916 designed the Standing Liberty quarter, produced with Isidore Konti the Column of Progress. Daniel Chester French, whose statue of the Minute Man in Concord, Massachusetts was to be used as the obverse motif for the 1925 Lexington-Concord commemorative half

dollar, sculpted the Genius of Creation, which was placed in the West Plaza opposite the main entrance to the Palace of Machinery. Elsewhere at the fair French’s statue, *A Princeton Student*, attracted attention. Official Exposition publicity named French as “the most successful, best loved and honored of American sculptors.” French was chairman of the Commission of Fine Arts in 1915, a group of artists who were supposed to furnish advice to the government on matters of art including coinage designs but whose recommendations were often ignored.

Adolph A. Weinman, later known to numismatists for his creation of the 1916 Mercury dime and Liberty Walking half dollar, created friezes at the base of columns surrounding the vestibule of the Palace of Machinery and a sculpted water display titled “The Fountain of the Rising Sun.” Robert I. Aitken, who was to become involved with later commemorative coins, was best known to numismatists in 1915 as the creator of the impressive \$50 gold coins for the Panama-Pacific International Exposition. For the fair Aitken created the *Fountain of the Earth*, a monumental production set in the Court of Abundance, involving many figures, plus a colossal sculpture of Hermes with outstretched arms grasping reptiles “suggestive of earliest forms of earth life, from the mouths of which streams of water are thrown all over the globe; steam clouds shrouded by night.” Aitken’s bust of William Howard Taft and a statue of Michelangelo were set in locations near the Palace of Fine Arts. His sculptures of heroic proportions, known as Earth, Air, Fire, and Water, were displayed in the Sunken Gardens at the center of the Court of the Sun and Stars. Paul Manship, who in 1935 supervised the production of the motif of the Connecticut Tercentenary commemorative half dollar, produced a large statuary display, *Festivity*, one of four groups by this sculptor placed at the east and west approaches to the Sunken Gardens. Paul Wayland Bartlett submitted a copy of his equestrian statue of Lafayette, similar to the early version set up in 1900 in connection with the Paris Exposition and used as the motif for the reverse of the 1900 Lafayette dollar. This was erected beneath the Rotunda in the Palace of Fine Arts not far from where Farran Zerbe had his Coin and Medal Department concession and Money of the World display.

Evelyn Beatrice Longman, who was to have created designs for the Panama-Pacific gold quarter eagle but because of illness could not complete the work, had several sculptures on view at the fair, including the *Fountain of Ceres*, displayed in the Court of Four Seasons, and a statue, *L’Amore*, shown near the Palace of Fine Arts. James Earle Fraser, who was to become involved with commemorative coins and who by 1915 was well known in numismatic circles as the designer of the 1913 Indian (or “buffalo”) nickel, exhibited his sculpture, *The End of the Trail*, in front of the Court of Palms, which showed a “drooping, storm-beaten figure” of the Indian on an exhausted pony, symbolizing the end of a race which was once a mighty people. “Chief American-Big Tree, a tall and stately young full-blooded Iroquois Indian now at the Exposition, was the model who posed for the sculpture. For six months in 1913 American-Big Tree posed for Fraser in the latter’s New York studio. Until he saw it at the Exposition the Indian had no idea of the destined setting for the group,” Jessie Niles Burness’ printed guide to art at the Exposition, *Sculpture and Mural Paintings*, stated.

Near the Palace of Fine Arts was a figure of Lincoln, seated, by the late Augustus Saint-Gaudens, remembered by numismatists as the creator of the 1907 Indian \$10 and MCMVII \$20 gold coins. Sherry Fry, a New York sculptor whom the Commission of Fine Arts recommended for consideration for designing commemorative coins for the Exposition (but who was not among those finally selected), produced decorative sculpture for the Festival Hall. Fry, medalist at the Paris Salon in 1907, and “whose work is well known everywhere,” was born in Iowa in 1879. Over a decade after the Exposition closed, Fry was named to prepare designs for the 1927 Vermont-Bennington commemorative half dollar, but the motifs were ultimately rejected. A statue titled *Beyond* by Chester Beach was located near the Palace of Fine Arts. Years later Beach was to become involved in the production of several commemorative half dollar designs including the 1923-S Monroe, 1925 Lexington-Concord, 1928 Hawaiian, and 1935 Hudson issues. A statue titled *Whaleman*, depicting a harpoonist in the bow of a boat by Bela Lyon Pratt, designer of the 1908 \$2.50 and \$5 regular issue United States gold coins, was also on display near the Palace of Fine Arts. The general area, outdoors and indoors, served as a setting for many works of prominent American artists.

Although posters, postcards, stamp cancellations, and other advertisements for the Exposition were circulated several years in advance of the event, coinage legislation lagged, and it was not until the relatively late date of January 16, 1915 that a congressional act providing for commemorative coins was signed into law. The enabling legislation stated that no more than 3,000 gold coins of the denomination of \$50, 10,000 gold coins of \$2.50 value, and 25,000 gold dollars were to be coined and that no more than 200,000 silver half dollars were to be made. Production of the gold coins was to begin as soon as possible but not later than the day of the opening of the Exposition. The Treasury was to sell the pieces at face value, and the fair could charge the public whatever it pleased.

Farran Zerbe at the Exposition

Regarding Zerbe’s exhibit, it consisted of a building within a building, a white latticework structure appearing somewhat similar to a fancy grape arbor, with open top and sides, enclosing a spacious area in which numismatic specimens in frames and cases were displayed. Most of these coins were sold singly in paper envelopes or as part of a group in velvet-lined black leatherette cases. Zerbe

commissioned Shreve & Co., a local jewelry firm, to create glass-fronted copper frames suitable for displaying sets of the five different coins. Double sets containing two of each could be ordered in the same frames.

A special appeal was made to bankers around the United States who, it was believed, would enjoy purchasing these for the viewing pleasure of their clients. A notice to bank officers from Zerbe stated:

"The notable series of coins that were authorized by Congress to commemorate the opening of the Panama Canal were produced at the San Francisco Mint during the latter part of the year and have had a very successful distribution during the few months they have been on sale. The novelty of designs, limited issue and denominations—particularly the \$50 gold pieces, the first to be issued by our government have made the series one of curiosity and popular interest that has been appreciated by banks for the local commendation and publicity a display of a set commands. The limited number of sets that remain are now offered to banks in a special and rich display case (with hang-up and easel back).... Your consideration is requested for a set of these coins for your bank, not only from the immediate advantage to come from the publicity to be commanded but as a permanent possession of the bank that should enhance in value and interest since the issue is limited to not over fifteen hundred sets. Special descriptive matter for local press will be sent. The prices as established will be maintained and any remainder will be destroyed at the Mint. The sale will be continued for the distribution of the remainder but not later than the close of the post-Exposition period, May 1st, 1916...."

Five pieces in a copper frame under glass cost \$200, while a double set, mounted to show the obverse and reverse of each, was listed for \$400. The number of sets sold was about 300, mostly to banks, of which about 60 were accompanied by "certification papers" issued by Zerbe. I estimate that perhaps fewer than a half dozen double sets were sold. A set containing a half dollar, gold dollar, \$2.50, and buyer's choice of either a round or octagonal \$50 was available in a leather case for \$100. Smaller sets in leather presentation cases, including a half dollar, gold dollar, and quarter eagle, were available for \$7.50. As a clearance Zerbe offered in late 1915 quantities of six half dollars and quarter eagles, \$25 the lot, or six half dollars, gold dollars, and quarter eagles for \$37.

By 1920 such commemoratives had been widely dispersed, and few remained in the hands of dealers. Afterward, year by year, they increased in price and desirability. Today, when any Pan-Pacific gold coin is offered it attracts at least some attention, and the large, impressive, and heavy \$50 gold coins attract a lot of attention.

Affordable 1915-S Panama-Pacific \$50 Octagonal Format



- 475 **1915-S Panama-Pacific Exposition \$50. Octagonal. AU-55 (PCGS).** Graded AU-55 due to light wear and very minor imperfections. Most survivors of this issue are higher grade and fully Mint State, thus much higher priced in the marketplace. Although still an expensive coin, this attractive example is expected to fill the needs of the collector who desires an example in the lower five figure price range. Considerable satiny yellow gold lustre remains in the protected areas with most design features boldly visible. We anticipate a flurry of bidding activity when this example crosses the auction block.

One of the little mysteries in the history of the American Numismatic Association involves the Annual Convention held in 1915 in San Francisco. At hand was the Exposition at that event Farran Zerbe, past president of the ANA, held forth with a magnificent display of his "Money of the World" together with souvenirs, commemorative coins, and the like. Advance publicity seemed to insure that this would be a spectacular convention event, combining

numismatics with the excitement of the fair. However, the show was a complete dud, only a handful of people attended, and little was ever said about it. The reasons for this are not completely known to the writer, but it could be that Zerbe, who was widely considered to be a first-class scamp and rascal by many ANA members, was the reason—people were "turned off" by his recent actions involving the ANA elections and, in particular, his sneaky purchase of *The Numismatist*. We leave such matters to the ever-fascinating articles that seem to come forth with great and wonderful regularity from the pages of *The Asylum*, journal of the Numismatic Bibliomania Society (if a reader does not belong and would care to, a note to the editor will bring membership information).

MODERN COMMEMORATIVES



- 476 • **1997-W Jackie Robinson. MS-69 (ICG).** A delightfully brilliant and tremendously satiny gem of the highest order. A modern-day rarity, one of just 5,174 Mint State examples actually sold to the buying public (nearly six times that number—30,180—Proofs were sold). Now just may be the time to place this key date in your collection, for who knows what the future brings where modern commemorative issues are concerned? Our best guess is that rarities (as in low-mintage issues) will eventually command the attention they deserve.

Comment from cataloguer Frank Van Valen:

The story of the Jackie Robinson commemorative issues—half dollar and half eagle—represents one of the saddest examples of political abuse to ever befall any commemorative issue from 1892 onward. As most Americans know, Jackie Robinson was the first African-American to break the "color barrier" of Major League baseball. Called up by the Brooklyn Dodgers from the Negro League in 1947, Robinson's exploits on the field are legion. Degradation, filthy insults from the stands and death threats via mail and telephone were the rule, not the exception, in Robinson's career, yet he steadfastly played his best and ignored the hate-filled bigots (some of whom were on his own team!), earning a place in baseball history, as well as a reputation as a fine, all-around American citizen. After his baseball career, Robinson founded the Jackie Robinson Foundation, a group that specializes in finding talented inner-city youths of all racial backgrounds and ensuring that they receive a quality education, thus showcasing their talents for the good of the entire nation. This bold and noble cause lives on in the memory of Jackie Robinson, one of the most influential role models of any color to ever find the spotlight.

Now for the nefarious portion of the tale. It seems (and all of the following appeared in print in various numismatic publications over the course of several months, and all of which is public record) that the wife of a wealthy and influential senator, whose state is situated somewhere south of the Mason-Dixon Line, cajoled her husband into tacking on a rider to the Jackie Robinson bill that stated that the first \$1 million in profits from the sales of Robinson commemoratives would be sidetracked to the coffers of the National Botanical Gardens. Never mind that the \$1 million would have gone to fund the college educations of hundreds or more of deserving inner-city kids, and never mind the fact that the National Botanical Gardens were scheduled to have their own commemorative issues within a year or so of the Robinson issues. This senator got his way, and \$1 million was taken away from the profits of the Robinson commemorative issues and given to the National Botanical Gardens. Evidently in some circles, flowers such as nasturtiums and mums are considered much more important than the very flower of American youth.

The low mintage of the Robinson issues may, in fact, represent the fact that many thinking Americans simply refused to order the coins after learning of the behind-the-scenes chicanery that diverted the profits to an unrelated cause.

- 477 **Quartette of 2000-dated American Eagle gold coins, in all four denominations, and all MS-69 (NGC):** ☆ \$5 (tenth ounce) ☆ \$10 (quarter ounce) ☆ \$25 (half ounce) ☆ \$50 (ounce). All are brilliant and extremely lustrous. (Total: 1 pieces)

PRIVATE AND TERRITORIAL GOLD COINS

Lustrous Miners Bank \$10 Rarity



- 478 **Undated. Miners Bank \$10 gold. K-1. Rarity-6. AU-55 (NGC)** A bright and lustrous yellow-gold specimen with a nuance of vibrant olive iridescence. The surfaces show a scattering of tiny marks, but none are of enough substance to warrant individual descriptions; in short, a pleasing coin for the grade.

It is not often that a Miners Bank piece appears in one of our sales, and when this occurs there is always a great deal of enthusiasm.

We use this as an opportunity to quote from Dave Bowers' forthcoming book, giving in this instance what has been learned about the Miners Bank and the circumstances surrounding its coins. Enjoy the narrative, or skip on, as you prefer!

Miners Bank \$10 Coins of 1849

The following is an excerpt from Q. David Bowers' forthcoming book, *A California Gold Rush History Featuring Treasure from the S.S. Central America*, to be published by the California Gold Marketing Group. © 2001. All rights reserved. In the book the information cited below will be cross-referenced to contemporary sources, although some references are given in this excerpt.

The project, led by QDB and provided with unlimited financing by the CGMG, coordinated by Dwight Manley and Christine Karstedt, involved extensive travels and archival studies by a team of researchers and others and collaboration with leading historians and museums in that specialty.

Wright & Company

The firm of Wright & Co., bankers and exchange brokers, was located at the corner of Washington and Kearny streets, Portsmouth Square, San Francisco, early in September 1849. Stephen A. Wright lent his name to the business and was its leading principal. *The Annals of San Francisco* include this mention of the firm as part of a sketch of the city in 1849:

A certain two-story building known as the Parker House situated on Kearny Street facing the Plaza paid its owners \$120,000 a year in rent. Of this sum somewhere about \$60,000 was paid by gamblers who occupied nearly the whole of the second floor. The El Dorado gambling saloon, which adjoined the Parker House...at the corner of Washington Street, which was only a canvas tent of moderate size, brought the rate of \$40,000 per annum.

In another corner of the Plaza, a small building, which might have been a stable for a half dozen horses, was possessed by Wright & Co., brokers, under the name of the Miners Bank, for the rent of \$75,000. [This \$75,000 rent figure was later quoted and requoted by many historians, along with many other prices that may have been true for part of 1849, but not later. There is no verification that such rents were actually paid in cash, or that they were sustained for any significant period of time. By autumn 1849 the shortage of space had eased, and many new structures were erected. Later the Veranda was put up on the site of Wright & Co. and became a famous gambling hall and saloon with upstairs rooms for assignations with ladies.] The United States Hotel paid \$36,000; a mercantile establishment, for a one-story building, of 20-feet front, paid \$40,000, and \$70,000 per month was paid for the Custom House....

By 1849 Stephen A. Wright was a well-known figure in the district. He had arrived in California by 1847, perhaps via an overland route in 1846. He settled in Monterey, where he was a principal in Wright & Dickenson, lumber dealers. In 1847 he was owner of a land parcel in San Francisco, Lot 1 in Block 49. By early 1849 Wright was associated with John S. Owens in the dry-goods trade in San Francisco. In that year he was a member of the town council.

Miners Bank Paper Money

Early in 1849 the Miners Bank arranged with the bank note engraving firm of Danforth & Hufy, with offices in New York City and Philadelphia, to print paper money for the firm, in anticipation of issuing it in San Francisco.

Using standard vignettes, presumably selected by Wright from sample sheets or impressions, Danforth & Hufy prepared a steel plate featuring denominations of \$1, \$3, \$5, \$10, each with the printed date March 1, 1849. At the time it was customary to print authorization dates on bank note plates and issue the notes afterward—even for months or years later.

The \$1 notes, some of which are known to have circulated in California, bore as their central motif an eagle on a shield. Presumably these were used in commerce in 1849, prior to the state legislature's prohibition of paper money, which became effective after the constitution was approved by the electorate (on November 13).

The other Miners Bank denominations known to exist in unissued proof sheet form included the \$3, illustrating various ships, including a steamer with stacks issuing smoke; the \$5, with a ship under full sail on the high seas; and the \$10, with a depiction of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. These motifs were "stock" with Danforth & Hufy and were used for notes of many other banks as well.

[A proof sheet of notes dated March 1, 1849, was included in Christie's sale of September 15, 1990, "Important Early American Bank Notes 1810-1874 from the Archives of the American Bank Note Company," and will be illustrated in the forthcoming Bowers text. Richard Doty, *America's Money, America's Story*, 1998, p. 103, illustrates a \$1 note, inked serial no. 27; the identical note is illustrated by Don Kagin, *Private Gold Coins and Patterns of the United States*, p. 100. In 1858, following a large-scale merger of several different firms, Moseley L. Danforth, earlier of Danforth & Hufy and other partnerships, became vice president of the newly formed American Bank Note Company.]

Starting Business

On July 2, 1849, with a stated capital of \$100,000, the Miners Bank announced the commencement of business at the corner of Washington and Kearny streets on the Plaza, across the street and to the left of the well-known El Dorado gambling saloon. Composing the company were Stephen A. Wright, John Thompson, Samuel W. Haight, and James C.L. Wadsworth. [On February 21, 1849, Wright had been elected to the district legislature, along with over a dozen others; earlier he had served on the Board of Aldermen. *Annals of San Francisco*, p. 220. In 1851 S.W. Haight was a member of the Committee of Vigilance. *Ibid.*, p. 574.]

During the war with Mexico, Thompson and Wadsworth had been members of Col. John D. Stevenson's New York Volunteer Regiment, which had since disbanded. Stephenson was involved in various investments and speculative ventures [In the discussion of Pacific Company coinage in the forthcoming book it is noted that Col. Stevenson was a friend of F.D. Kohler and may have been a backer of Broderick & Kohler; Stephenson also hired entertainer and writer Stephen C. Massett to be "mayor" of the speculative venture New York of the Pacific], while the soldiers were engaged in activities ranging from gold mining to hooliganism (some were members of the Hounds, primarily a group of shifters and ne'er do wells who terrorized the city).

Miners Bank Desires to Issue Coins

On August 7 the firm requested permission from the collector of the Port of San Francisco to issue \$5 and \$10 gold pieces for use in payment of import duties. Such coins were also to "afford a circulating medium for business purposes in this country." The collector denied the application, for reasons not known today. Perhaps Wright & Co., the Miners Bank, could not demonstrate that it had expertise in gold refining and assaying—a highly technical art. As the collector was personally responsible for any shortfall in receipts, it was prudent to reject the request.

Miners Bank proceeded to issue coins, regardless of their nonacceptance at the Custom House. Coins of other firms, such as Moffat & Co. and Norris, Gregg & Norris, had no official cachet there either.

The Miners Bank, lacking its own refining and minting facilities, had its coins struck to order elsewhere. James C.L. Wadsworth, a partner in the Miners Bank, later made this poignant statement [Quoted by Donald H. Kagin, *Private Gold Coins and Patterns of the United States*, p. 98]: "Knew the firm Broderick and Kohler in August 1849; they coined money for the Miners Bank."

Description of the Coinage

The obverse of the Miners Bank \$10 is rather plain and simply bears the inscription MINERS BANK / SAN FRANCISCO with TEN. D. within. The apostrophe, which might have gone after either the R or the S, appears as a comma, which is incorrect by any reading. In print, the Miners Bank was never certain where the apostrophe should go, or if there should be one at all (appearances include Miners Bank, Miner's Bank, and Miners' Bank); their currency is imprinted MINER'S BANK.

The reverse displays an eagle based on the federal style with CALIFORNIA above and an arc of 13 stars completing the border. The eagle is somewhat similar to that used on certain eastern tokens of the 1840s (for example, Scovill's Daguerreotype token, Miller-805, is similar, but not identical and may be from the same hand). The writer conjectures that the eagle reverse may have been a stock or generic die made by Scovill with simply an eagle and the word CALIFORNIA, that was taken to California by adventurers and in California combined with a California-made die, less skilled in its craftsmanship, featuring the

Miners Bank. As further support for this theory, the stars on the obverse are solid, while those on the reverse are made up of five elements; and the letter punches are from different sets. These differences would hardly have happened if both dies had been made by the same engraver in the same place at the same time.

The edges were reeded. Some were reeded after striking, reducing the diameter.

Miners Bank Coins in August 1849

Howard C. Gardiner, who later wrote *In Pursuit of the Golden Dream: Reminiscences of San Francisco and the Northern and Southern Mines, 1849-1857* arrived in San Francisco on July 26, 1849:

My memory reverts to that Saturday morning when I landed in San Francisco with but two dollars in my scrip, and no provisions for the future....

The old saying, "Root, hog or die," was thoroughly exemplified in my case, and with a disposition to accept any honest employment that would enable me to procure the means to reach the gold fields, I started to find work.

While strolling along the way later known as Sansome Street, Gardiner encountered Mr. Hudson, a carpenter-mechanic he had known in his native village on Long Island, New York. Hudson signed Gardiner as a laborer with pick and shovel at the rate of \$12 per day. Physical labor proved to be very debilitating. "Sometimes the pain was excessive—I found more relief in Perry Davis' Pain Killer than anything else.... Dozens of bottles were consumed before I was restored to health."

The time is now mid-August 1849:

By the time the boys [his friends] saw their way to leave for the mines, I was sufficiently ahead to warrant my joining them. Mr. Hudson had paid us off every Saturday night, and it was laughable to see the kinds of currency tendered and accepted as a matter of course.

He would come with a bag filled with rolens [also called roleaux or simply rolls; coins of similar metal and value were often rolled up in paper and marked on the outside with their value] of silver coin, foreign coin of every description, simple slugs of gold stamped with their weight and value, Miners Bank coins, etc. Everything went in those days, and in whatever shape wages came, there was no grumbling, as there was not sufficient coin in circulation to satisfy the demand....

It was the latter part of August when we one morning pulled out of the bay [on the way to the gold fields]....

The preceding account indicates that Miners Bank coins were in circulation by mid- or late August 1849, in company with gold ingots—the latter probably those of Moffat & Co. Incidentally, Perry's Pain Killer seems to have been one of the most popular patent medicines in Gold Rush California. Supplies were carried by passengers aboard the *S.S. Central America* in 1857, and some bottles were recovered in the 20th century by the Columbus-America Discovery Group.

California \$10 Coins Assayed at New Orleans

By mid-October 1849 examples of \$10 gold coins privately minted in California had reached the New Orleans Mint. The assayer of that institution reported [*Hunt's Merchants' Magazine and Commercial Review*, Vol. 22, January to June, 1850, pp. 226-227. Edgar H. Adams, *Private Gold Coinage of California, 1849-1855*, p. 70, quotes this letter but adds "(Moffat & Co.)" without informing the reader that this is his guess, not part of the original text.]:

Branch Mint, New Orleans,
December 13th, 1849.

On the 16th of October, I assayed one ten dollar gold piece, coined at San Francisco, nearly a facsimile of the United States gold eagle; weight, 258 grains; title, 888 millemes of gold; 60 do. of silver, and the balance of copper; value, \$9.78. This is the only coin in which art has been resorted to in making an alloy, that I have seen. [Edgar H. Adams, *Private Gold Coinage of California 1849-1855*, p. 70, assumes that this was a Moffat & Co. coin, not unreasonable as no other Liberty Head design California gold coins dated 1849 were known to exist in Adams' time or today. However, although Adams inserted "(Moffat)" at this point in his quotation, the original report did not include any Moffat designation. That there is a possibility that others may have coined similar pieces is given by Adams on p. 71, in which he discusses the Liberty Head coinage of Dubosq & Co., known only with the date of 1850, but with the possibility that 1849-dated pieces may have been made (or that 1850-dated coins may have been struck by Dubosq in 1849, if Dubosq only had dies of this date)]

Also, on the same day, one ten dollar piece of the Miners' Bank of San Francisco; stamp very different from that of the United States; weight, 259 grains; title, 866 millemes of gold; 105 do. of silver; value, \$9.65.

As, with the exceptions alluded to, these appear to be made of California gold, unchanged, except in melting, and being cast into ingots, we may expect the title to vary as much as that of the gold in different localities, the range of which is from 860 to 910 millemes. Hence, no surprise should exist at the difference of title rendered in the same mint, or of titles as compared with those of other mints.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
Wm. P. Hort, Assayer

The preceding account reveals that Miners Bank coins had to have been sent from San Francisco no later than the last week of September, 1849, for under the best circumstances it took at least three weeks to travel from San Francisco to New Orleans (by steamer from San Francisco, overland at Panama, and by steamer to New Orleans). From this and, especially, the Gardiner account, it can be concluded that Miners Bank coins were regularly encountered in circulation in August and September 1849.

It also reveals that of the various non-federal coins that Hort had examined by this time—and he implies that there were more than just this pan—the other coin was the only one in which gold had been refined and alloyed with copper in an effort to meet the federal standard (which was 90% gold and 10% alloy, at least 5% of which had to be copper). The fineness of the other coin, 888, was closer to the standard than was that of the Miners Bank, 866, the latter having been struck from native gold. As to the identity of the other \$10 piece, it likely was a Moffat piece (Adams suggests this), but it could have been a coin of another issuer.

Early Mentions of Wright & Company

Daniel Knower of Albany, New York, who came to California in the summer of 1849 and who in advance had shipped "twelve houses, complete and ready to put up on arrival in San Francisco," brought with him "a gold chronometer watch, worth \$250, belonging to H., a broker in New York, a friend.... The watch I was to sell, for he had two nephews who had gone to California, and if they were in need, to supply their wants. I did not meet them; sold the watch for \$500 to Mr. Haight, one of the owners of the Miners' Bank in San Francisco, and remitted the money to my friend."

Further from Knower:

Three persons started the first bank in San Francisco, called the Miners' Bank, on the northwestern corner of the Plaza. Mr. Haight, who was from Rochester, N.Y., and the sutler of Col. Stevenson's regiment, was one of them. It was said that at first they bought gold as low as \$8 per ounce, when it was worth more than \$18 at the Mint in the East. The owners of the bank made \$100,000 each in three or four years.

[Daniel Knower, *The Adventures of a Forty-Niner*, 1894, p. 80. Knower also was acquainted with D.C. Broderick of Broderick & Kohler and mentioned that the partnership was located in the same building as Col. Stephenson's office, but made no mention of Broderick & Kohler coins (p. 63; there called "Kohler & Broderick") In 1850 Knower went back to the East. On the way from San Francisco to Nicaragua (destination later altered to Panama) his ship stopped at San Blas, Mexico, to take on fuel: "Here we could not buy anything with our \$5 gold pieces, but they were ready to sell for silver" (p. 88). Knower's comment about the bank owners making large sums of money in "three or four years" cannot be accurate, as the bank was in business for only about a year.]

E. Gould Buffum, in *Six Months in the Gold Mines*, commented:

I came next to the Square, or Plaza, on one side of which, and fronting it, stood the "Miner's Bank," established by a Mr. Wright, a keen speculator who had secured possession of a large extent of landed property, which he was turning to the very best account.

Denouement

On October 16, 1849, the four principals of Miners Bank recapitalized the firm at \$200,000. [Hubert Howe Bancroft, *History of California*, Vol. VII, p. 161, considered \$200,000 to be insufficient capital for effective operation of a bank.] Whether coins were issued after that time is not known.

On January 14, 1850, the Miners Bank dissolved. This notice was soon published [Citation from the *Alta California*, January 28, 1850. Notice first appeared on January 16.]:

The copartnership heretofore existing between the subscribers under the name of Wright & Co. is this day dissolved by mutual consent. All persons having any unsettled business with the said Company are hereby requested to settle the same immediately with S.A. Wright or S.W. Haight, who are duly authorized to settle all business of the company.

San Francisco, January 14th, 1850. S.A. Wright, J. Thompson, S.W. Haight, J.C.L. Wadsworth.

The *Alta California* reported on April 11, 1850, that "the issue of the Miners' Bank is a drug on the market. Brokers refuse to touch it at less than 20 percent discount...." By purchasing coins at such a deep discount, the brokers made more money than the coiners ever did. At the time there was a dichotomy: the "common man" desired gold coins of value to use in commerce, and the demand was fairly met by several coiners; however, gold dust traders preferred the old system without local or regional facilities to convert gold dust into coins, which made higher trading profits possible. Accordingly, such gold dust dealers may have been responsible for a great deal of misinformation on private coins that appeared in San Francisco papers during this era.

News Reaches the East

Somewhat similarly, the *State Gazette*, Trenton, New Jersey, May 8, 1850, printed this exchange account:

CALIFORNIA COIN—A correspondent of the *St. Louis Republican*, writing from San Francisco, February 15, has the following:

For a few weeks past some excitement has existed here in relation to the gold coin issued and thrown into circulation by private individuals, and a portion of this coin has been refused in commercial transactions, at its face value. The principal manufacturers of this coin, denominated by our legislature as spurious and counterfeit, are Messrs. Moffat & Co., Norris, Gregg & Norris, and Wright, of the Miners Bank.

The coin of the latter concern, all \$10's, is in the worst odor at this time, owing, perhaps, more to the absence of those immediately interested in it, than from any real cause of alarm on account of its true value. The firm is said to have realized in the purchase of gold dust and its coinage, \$400,000—they have left the country, as most people do after making their fortunes.

Messrs. Moffat & Co. seem to have come up to the emergency with proper spirit, redeeming their coin promptly, on presentation, in specie—quarters, dimes, &c. Norris, Gregg & Norris are located at Benicia or Stockton, and are said to redeem their money when required, but owing to statements made and published of tests of the value of this coin at the mints, by which it appears to be a trifle finer than the U. States gold, no considerable run has been made upon them." [Digression: This notice would seem to indicate that as of early 1850, Norris, Gregg & Norris was still active in Benicia (although their coins bore the imprint of San Francisco, with all known pieces dated 1849); in the same year N.G. & N. issued 1850-dated coins with the Stockton imprint. Recently, a non-collector of coins, but a man deeply interested in the Gold Rush, purchased a gold ingot from the *S.S. Central America* treasure from Bowers and Merena Galleries, after which he determined to learn about numismatics of the era. At last word he was going to make a trip to Benicia to look through records to see what he could find out about Norris, Gregg & Norris!]

Without a mint in California, we must ever fear a depreciation in the price of the coin thrown into circulation by Tom, Dick and Harry, whose responsibility is not known to a tenth of our people.

Later Times

The Miners Bank \$10 coins remained in circulation for a number of years thereafter, the pieces issued by other 1849 coiners. In 1856 *Thompson's Coin Chart Manual* gave a trading value of \$9.50 to the Miners Bank \$10 and a value of \$4.75 to the N.G. & N. \$5, noting that the buying price was from one-half to live percent below these figures [Quoted by Edgar H. Adams, *Private Gold Coinage of California, 1849-1855*, p. 70.]:

Stephen A. Wright relocated to Arizona later in the decade.

In later times several other banks had the name "Miners" as part of their title, but none are known to have been associated with Wright & Co. or its partners of 1849, despite the statements of several prominent historians to the contrary.

Addenda

Ira B. Cross, *Financing an Empire*, Vol. I, pp. 40-53, seems to have confused Dr. Stephen A. Wright with another banker with the same surname:

Some claim that Dr. Stephen A. Wright's "Miners' Bank," established presumably towards the close of 1848, was the first banking house to enter the field. It was the outcome of the exchange brokerage business started by Wright & Company some time, so it is surmised, during 1848. We know that in September, 1849, this firm was located at the corner of Kearny and Washington streets, Portsmouth Square, paying a rental of \$6,000 a month for a little wooden cottage.

In the early part of the following November the partners, Stephen A. Wright, John Thompson, Samuel W. Haight and J. C. L. Wadsworth, definitely organized as bankers with an announced capital stock of \$200,000. [Problems in Cross' account begin here.] In 1854 Wright's bank changed its name to "Miners Exchange and Savings Bank" with offices in the old Armory Hall on the northeast corner of Sacramento and Montgomery streets. In September, 1854, it advertised that "All moneys deposited in this Bank, in sums not exceeding One Thousand Dollars, at one day's sight, said deposits made on and after 1st September, 1854, to 1st September, 1855, will draw interest at the rate of one and a half per cent per mo..." In December, 1854, it moved into spacious new quarters at the northwest corner of Montgomery and Jackson streets. The *Daily Herald* of December 25, 1854, commented upon the new location in the following terms: "The splendid four story building just completed by Dr. A. S. Wright is one of the finest in the Union... The first floor on the corner will be occupied as a Banking House by Dr. Wright; attached to it is a vault, built of double iron, riveted together; enclosed with a wall sixteen inches thick, arched and grouted in cement." This concern at first was successful and profitable, and remained solvent throughout all the uncertain days of the gold rush, only to succumb in the disastrous Black Friday of February 23, 1855, at which time three other banking firms closed their doors. The *Mercantile Trust Review of the Pacific* maintains that this banking house "has good claim to be regarded as the first bank to be established in the country."

The *Mercantile Trust Review of the Pacific* seems to have mixed up the Wrights as well.

Impressive Mint State 1850 Moffat & Co. \$5



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 479 1850 Moffat & Co. \$5 gold. K-7. Rarity-4. MS-63 (NGC). Lustrous honey gold with bright rose highlights. A delight to behold. This variety is considered moderately scarce in circulated grades, and it must certainly be considered quite rare in Mint State. Here is an opportunity that almost certainly won't be repeated in the near future, and territorial gold enthusiasts are urged to bid accordingly.

Obverse with federal-style head of Liberty to left, MOFFAT & Co. on coronet, 13 stars around, date below, 1 in date broad and stocky, and slightly taller than the other date numerals. Reverse with federal-style eagle at center, S.M.V. CALIFORNIA GOLD. FIVE DOL. around, point of olive branch over space between D and O in DOL., three leaves below M in S.M.V. Struck from a shattered reverse die, with prominent cracks around and through GOLD and DOL., the latter exhibiting a chip about to fall from the rim area of the die.

A book could be written about Moffat & Company, and the aforementioned volume by Dave Bowers devotes quite a bit of space to this enterprise, while resisting the temptation, with information on hand, to do a separate volume. In brief, Moffat was the "favorite" company among private minters of the 1849-1853 era. Their products were highly esteemed and were used in commerce for years thereafter. Some pieces were recovered from the treasure found on the *S.S. Central America* indicating that they were still being employed as late as the summer of 1857.

Lovely 1853 U.S.A.O.G. Gold \$20



- 480 1853 U.S. Assay Office of Gold. \$20 gold. TWENTY D., 900 THOUS. on ribbon. K-18. MS-62 (NGC). Satiny surfaces display lustrous olive iridescence. One of the more plentiful of the Gold Rush era issues, yet still important as a cornerstone to any solid collection of territorial gold pieces. An attractive coin with a good strike and plenty of overall appeal.

The United States Assay Office of Gold was operated by the proprietors of Moffat & Co., Curtis, Perry, & Ward. In 1853 the minting enterprise. In 1853 the minting enterprise was sold to the United States government, and the facilities were later used for the San Francisco Mint.

Impressive 1850 Baldwin & Co. \$5



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 481 1850 Baldwin & Co. \$5 gold. K-2. Rarity-5. AU-50 (ANACS). Highly lustrous and equally bright olive-gold surfaces. A lovely coin that easily meets the merits of the assigned grade despite some minor surface flaws that become apparent under low magnification. Not so rare as its \$10 brethren, the famous 1850 Baldwin & Co. Horseman or *Vaquero* issue, but still a very scarce and desirable coin in its own right.

Obverse with design very similar to the federal half eagles of the era, bust of Liberty to left, 13 stars around, date below, BALDWIN & Co. on coronet. Reverse with federal-style eagle at center, SALV CALIFORNIA GOLD. FIVE DOL. around, S repunched, final A in CALIFORNIA over an inverted V, L of DOL. repunched.

We would be pleased to furnish some "reading material" concerning Baldwin—get set for perhaps 15 minutes to a half-hour of involvement!—upon request to the successful bidder of this coin.

Choice AU 1855 Kellogg \$20



- 482 1855 Kellogg & Co. \$20 gold. K-3a. Rarity-6. Medium Arrows. AU-58 (NGC). Reeded edge. Rich gold surfaces with some slight granularity noted under magnification, similar to the appearance of some saltwater coins. The strike is sharp with excellent detail throughout the central devices. A pleasing example overall.

Uncirculated 1860 Clark, Gruber & Co. \$5



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 483 1860 Clark, Gruber & Co. \$5 gold. Kagin-2. Rarity-4. MS-61 (NGC). Strong lustre present on bright yellow gold surfaces. Well struck in all areas. An altogether exciting example of a fairly scarce issue; we suspect "rare" is an appropriate description for the issue when Mint State is the grade!

Obverse with design very similar to the federal half eagles of the era, bust of Liberty to left, 13 stars around, date below, CLARK & Co. on coronet, C of CLARK repunched, A from a smaller letter punch than the other letters. Reverse with federal-style eagle at center, PIKES PEAK GOLD DENVER FIVE D. around.

The editor (QDB) would be interested in corresponding with anyone with information or ideas concerning the authorship of various dies employed by Clark, Gruber & Co., which seemed to be the work of at least two different engravers.

- 484 Undated. Mint of the United States at San Francisco. Silver bar. As cast and subsequently imprinted with information at the Mint. A mid-20th century issue that is ever popular with collectors.

Weight: 6.18 oz. Fineness: 999.75. Dimensions: Width: 32.3 mm; height: 51.4 mm.; thickness: 12.3 mm.

Face of ingot: Stamp with MINT OF THE UNITED STATES AT SAN FRANCISCO around an eagle with spread wings, holding olive branch and arrows, 1464 / 999.75 / FINE in three lines below stamp. Edges of ingot: Plain. Back of ingot: 6.18 / OZS in two lines.

PATTERN COINS



- 485 1853 pattern cent. P-178, J-151. Rarity-5. Liberty Head. Proof-61 (PCGS). German silver. Reeded edge. Sharply struck. Somewhat dull surfaces, characteristic of its alloy, on or another mixtures of so-called German silver, not determinable except by elemental analysis. Andrew W. Pollock, III in his excellent reference on the pattern series gives some discussion of the situation.

The present piece is purely a *pattern* in the literal sense. It was created to test an alloy, and to do this an obverse die for an 1853 quarter eagle was mated with a hastily produced reverse inscribed ONE and then at an angle CENTS within an open wreath, the hurriedness being quite evident by the great separation between the two reverse words, hardly likely to win any prizes for artistic balance.

At the time the Mint was seeking a replacement for the large copper cent that had been a fixture in commerce since 1793. Experiments were tried beginning in 1850, then in a large way again in 1853-1855, culminated by the 1856 Flying Eagle copper-nickel cent at the end of the era.

In 1837, Dr. Lewis Feuchtwanger, a German chemist and mineralogist born in 1805 and who arrived in America in 1829, sought to promote his alloy called "Feuchtwanger's Composition." This was a variety of so-called "German silver," or, in the German language, translated to "new silver." There was no standard alloy for German silver, but in general the mixture consisted of more than 50% copper, a lesser amount of zinc, and perhaps 15% to 20% nickel (Feuchtwanger used 17% nickel). The scientist petitioned Congress to adopt his alloy as a substitute for the cent in 1837, but tests made at the Mint revealed that as the alloy was inconsistent, it would not be suitable for coinage as precision was desired. Thus, the idea was rejected. Feuchtwanger went on to turn loose a flood of one-cent and, to a lesser degree, three-cent tokens bearing the 1837 date, these privately issued. Interestingly, they stood up very well to the rigors of commerce, and when seen today they are usually sharp and attractive.

In 1853, continuing through 1855, the Mint once again experimented with German silver, with different mixtures (as discussed by Andrew Pollock) with the presently offered coin being an early entry.

The editor (QDB) is compiling a file on Dr. Feuchtwanger and his life and accomplishments and would welcome correspondence with anyone on the subject.



- 486 1858 pattern cent. P-248, J-204. Rarity-5. Proof-62 (PCGS). Copper-nickel. Plain edge. Reflective golden fields and faintly frosted devices. A pleasing example of this popular Flying Eagle cent pattern, an issue that is often referred to as the "skinny" eagle variety. Sharply struck; if one were so inclined, each individual feather could easily be counted.

Obverse with "skinny" eagle flying left, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA around, date below. Reverse with open oak and laurel wreath, ornamental shield at top of wreath, ONE CENT in two lines at center of wreath, ribbon and arrows at bottom.

Popular 1859 Indian Cent Pattern

Gem Mint State
Shield Reverse



- 487 1859 pattern cent. P-272, J-228. MS-66 (PCGS). Copper-nickel. Plain edge. Strong lustre and pale rose iridescence on lively golden surfaces. A delightful gem with strong eye appeal. Sharply struck in all areas save for the upper right corner of the reverse shield. An ever-popular muling of the 1859 obverse with the 1860 reverse.

Obverse type as seen for Indian cents, 1859-1864. Reverse as seen for Indian cents, 1860-1909.

The editor (QDB) recalls buying a number of these in the 1950s when they were referred to as Adams-Woodin-312, as other reference books on patterns had not yet been issued. It was not particularly unusual to find these pieces, with a shield on the reverse, offered as *regular* 1859 cents, as dealers did not take the time to study them carefully. John J. Ford, Jr., particularly liked the variety, and when he was editor of the *Standard Catalogue of United States Coins*, successor to Wayne Raymond, in 1957 this particular variety was listed among *regular* issues.

Whether or not these pieces were all struck as patterns, or whether some were actually made for circulation, is not known, but the possibility exists that some were intended for commercial purposes—witness the "Uncirculated" or lustrous finish to the coins, quite unlike the Proof format of nearly all patterns. Some discussion of the variety appears in the editor's book, *A Buyer's and Enthusiast's Guide to Flying Eagle and Indian Cents*, a copy of which will be given gratis to the successful bidder of this lot if he or she does not have one and requests same.



- 488 1863 pattern cent. P-359, J-299. Rarity-7. Bronze. Thin planchet. Proof-64 BN (PCGS). Bronze. Plain edge. Satiny brown devices stand boldly out from mirrored brown fields. Electric blue and rose iridescence mingle in the protected areas. An attractive example of a highly collectible Indian cent pattern, a Rarity-7 issue when found with 180° die alignment such as the present piece.

Die alignment: 180°.

Over the years we have had perhaps 100 to 200 of this particular variety, an interesting *transitional* pattern which might justifiably occupy a space in either a set of regular Indian cents and, quite reasonably, in a set of Civil War *tokens* as well. These patterns were produced at the Mint after officials noted that thin bronze tokens issued by private interests were very popular in general circulation. Ever since its introduction in 1857, copper-nickel caused many problems at the Mint, as the hard metal caused dies to wear rapidly and break. Moreover, copper-nickel, containing 12% nickel, was a fairly scarce metal with very few suppliers on hand. The pattern style offered in the present lot represents the Mint's experiments with the new alloy, quite successful, and in spring 1864 bronze became the standard.

- 489 1863 pattern cent. P-359, J-299. Indian Head. MS-62 (SEGS). Bronze. Plain edge. Deep brown surfaces with some trivial spotting noted upon close examination. The surfaces have some light greasy appearing substance adhering, probably left over from this piece having been oiled years ago, as was commonly done to protect the surfaces of coins and medals from the elements.

Thin planchet. Die alignment: 360° (as usually seen for this particular variety).



- 490 1869 pattern cent. P-742, J-666. Rarity-6. Coronet Head. Proof-65 (PCGS). Nickel. Plain edge. A pleasing example with attractive satiny lustre. Somewhat weakly defined at the centers, due in part to the obverse die state.

Shattered obverse die with a series of fine die cracks.



- 491 1869 pattern three-cent piece. P-753, J-676. Rarity-5. Coronet Head. Proof-64 (PCGS). Nickel. Plain edge. Slightly reflective pale gray surfaces with central weakness. The Mint was still becoming accustomed to production with the nickel composition.

Pleasing 1869 Pattern Five Cents

Pollock Plate Example



- 492 1869 pattern five-cent piece. P-762, J-683. Rarity-7. Coronet Head. Proof-63 (PCGS). Nickel. Plain edge. A rare pattern issue with only six or seven survivors. Reflective light gray surfaces with only very slight weakness at central reverse. This identical coin was illustrated in Andrew W. Pollock III's *United States Patterns and Related Issues*, figure 292.

1869 Pattern Five Cents



- 493 1869 pattern five-cent piece. P-763, J-684. Rarity-5. Proof-63 (SEGS). Nickel. Plain edge. Lustrous nickel surfaces with mottled deeper gray toning. Some softness of strike is noted, as often found on patterns struck on this hard metal, though the design is mostly complete. From a reverse die featuring the motto "IN GOD WE TRUST," which had been used for 1868-dated patterns as well. There are so many five-cent pattern coin types from the middle to late 1860s that a collector could focus on this denomination alone and build a sizeable and interesting collection with many very rare highlights.

Weight: 76.9 grains.

Desirable 1882 Liberty Nickel Pattern



- 494 1882 pattern five-cent piece. P-1892, J-1690. Rarity-5+. Proof-50 (ANACS). Nickel. Plain edge. Deep mirror fields and frosty motifs with only a touch of surface disturbance from light mishandling long ago. A popular and fairly scarce pattern precursor to the regular-issue Liberty nickel series (1883-1912).



- 495 1869 pattern dime. P-782, J-703. Rarity-6+. Standard Silver. Proof-64 (PCGS). Silver. Plain edge. An example of the extensive Standard Silver experiment, a proposed remedy to the problem of hoarding coinage during difficult economic times. A lovely example with deeply mirrored surfaces and pleasing cameo contrast.



- 496 1869 pattern dime. P-787, J-708. Rarity-5. Standard Silver. Proof-63 (NGC). Silver. Reeded edge. Mostly brilliant silver surfaces with nice reflectivity. Slight gray pearlescence is noted. Sharply struck, with a few light hairlines accounting for the grade. One of the more common pattern coin types, affordable and popular as such.

Attractive 1870 10 Cents



- 497 1870 pattern dime. P-923, J-833. Rarity-6+. Proof-63. A pleasing example with subdued Proof surfaces and nearly full dark orange lustre on the obverse, just beginning to fade to attractive brown, and highlighted by faint lilac and blue toning. The reverse is mostly attractive dark brown with traces of orange lustre. A scarce pattern issue with only about 15 examples known.

Possibly Unique 1916 Pattern Dime



- 498 1916 pattern dime. P-2041, J-1794. Rarity-8. Mercury Head. VF-30, Scratched (SEGS). Silver. Reeded edge. The grade of this piece requires further discussion. The sharpness of the coin is that of a VF-30, though the noted scratches are on both sides, and especially heavy and extensive on the reverse side. This being said, this is a very rare coin, and perhaps unique. It is plated in the Pollock reference, and its previous sale in our auction of November 1985 is the only record that Pollock was able to find. Considering the extent of the wear, it is clear that this piece circulated for some time, and it is amazing that it has survived at all. Certainly this is one of the most important of all 20th-century silver coins!

Weight: 38.1 grains.

From our sale of the Abe Kosoff Collection, November 1985, Lot 1130.

Gem Proof 1869 Pattern 25¢

Standard Silver



- 499 1869 pattern quarter. P-808, J-727. Rarity-5. Standard Silver. Proof-65 (NGC). Silver. Reeded edge. Mostly brilliant silver surfaces with just a touch of smoky gray in the fields. Frosty devices stand out boldly from the reflective field, resulting from the bold strike. A lovely gem example.



- 500 1869 pattern quarter. P-808, J-727. Rarity-5. Standard Silver. Proof-63 (PCGS). Silver. Reeded edge. The Standard Silver experiment provided reduced weights of silver coinage. The inscription referred to the actual alloy that was to remain the same, 90% silver and 10% copper. A lovely cameo Proof with deep toning and minor hairlines.

Impressive 1869 Pattern Half Dollar

Standard Silver



- 501 1869 pattern half dollar. P-838, J-754. Rarity-5+. Standard Silver. Proof-64 (NGC). Silver. Reeded edge. A wonderful and deeply mirrored Proof with highly lustrous cameo devices. Predominately white with very light peripheral amber and rose toning. A trace of lilac is noted on the reverse. Mint Director James Pollock discussed this plan at some length in his *Annual Report* for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1870. This statement was reprinted by Andrew W. Pollock, III, in his pattern reference, page 175.

Gem Proof 1869 Standard Silver 50¢



- 502 1869 pattern half dollar. P-839, J-755. Rarity-6+. Standard Silver. Proof-65 (NGC). Silver. Plain edge. Brilliant, with bold satiny devices and reflective Proof fields. A sharply struck gem example of this popular pattern, worthy of a fine collection.

The Standard Silver pattern series consisted of dimes through half dollars dated 1869 and 1870. An interesting collection could be assembled of this basic design type, considering the numerous varieties in silver, copper, brass, and aluminum.

MINT ERRORS

Mint Errors, always a popular specialty, are showcased in this catalogue by a simply spectacular, breathtaking offering of Eisenhower dollar errors—personal property of our own Dave Bowers, who has consigned them to the sale. In the present era \$1 coins have been very popular, what with the beautiful Sacagawea “golden dollars” currently being minted, the Susan B. Anthony dollars of yesteryear, and before that the Eisenhower dollars.

- 503 Quartette of off-center Indian cents, each with visible dates: ☆ 1862 AG-3. 15% off-center at 10:30 ☆ 1896 VF-25. 10% off-center at 8:00 ☆ 1899 VF-35. 5% off-center at 5:30 ☆ 1902 EF-45. 15% off-center at 6:30. (Total: 4 pieces)
- 504 1864 L on Ribbon. Indian cent. VF-35 (PCGS). Broadstruck out of collar. As the 1864 L is a key in the Indian cent series, we can readily imagine that this coin will be a show piece in any regular collection or, of course, in a specialized cabinet of mint errors.
- 505 1913 Zinc-coated Steel cent. 15% off-center. MS-63 (PCGS). Lustrous light gray surfaces. This is actually about 10% off-center at 5:00. Interesting due to the metal alloy—probably a 1,000 or more bronzed mint error cents exist of varying dates for every single 1913 steel cent!

- 506 1965 cent. Struck-through. MS-63 RB (PCGS). An intriguing example with a staple struck through the obverse, visible across Lincoln's head. We are not certain how a staple managed to find its way into the coinage press.

- 507 Pair of ANACS-certified error coins: ☆ 1989 cent. Unplated planchet. MS-63. Rotated reverse ☆ 1921 Morgan dollar. Partial collar. AU-55. Lustrous. (Total: 2 pieces)

- 508 Pair of 2000-P Lincoln cents forming a two-coin mated pair: ☆ Coin #1 is a normally centered Lincoln cent with an indent at 8:00. MS-65 RD (PCGS) ☆ Coin #2 is double struck with the first strike normal and the second strike substantially off-center, the second strike forming the indent on the other coin. MS-66 RD (PCGS). (Total: 2 pieces)



- 509 2000-P cent. One of the weirdest, most unusual mint errors we have ever seen! And, just to think, there are two of them in this sale—see also the next lot. Double denomination. Struck first as a dime on a dime planchet. MS-67 (PCGS). An exciting example with lustrous light gray surfaces and pale champagne toning. This particular planchet, was fed into a cent press and was stamped with the features of a Lincoln cent. The naked eye reveals a 2000-year Lincoln cent with lots of lettering and “stuff” in the fields from the dime. Under magnification the outline of Roosevelt's portrait is seen, as are shadows of the date 2000, as is, fairly strongly, the P mintmark from the dime. On the reverse are many inscriptions from the dime including the *denomination*, thus making this a *double denomination* mint error. Fascinating!



- 510 2001-P cent. Double denomination. Cent struck on previously struck 10-cent. MS-66 (PCGS). A fascinating piece quite similar to the preceding, but with an overall white color, indicating a dime planchet, minted within the past few months and with the date 2001 sharply visible on the cent and with the date in shadow form from the dime as well as a fairly strong P mintmark. Similarly, on the reverse the denomination from the dime can be discerned, making this a *double denomination* coin. Fascinating to own, we would say!

- 511 1882 Shield nickel. Broadstruck out of collar. MS-60 or finer. An exceptional example with highly lustrous light gray surfaces. Peripheral lettering is slightly distorted due to metal flow.

Diameter: 21.4 mm.

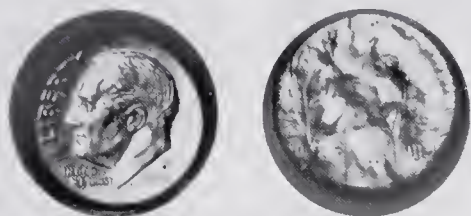
Acquired by Dave Bowers years ago in the 1950s and set aside along with some tokens—and recently discovered in a dusty corner of a bank vault!

- 512 1915-D nickel. Planchet clip at 12:30. AU-55. Soft gray surfaces with lovely rose highlights.
- 513 Undated Jefferson nickel. Struck on a clad 10-cent planchet. MS-64 (PCGS). Very well-centered with central designs mostly complete on the planchet. Lustrous pale gray surfaces.
- 514 Selection of interesting errors: ☆ 1935 dime. AU-50. Partial collar ☆ 1952-D quarter. EF-10. 10% off-center at 3:00 ☆ 1959 quarter. EF-10. Struck on planchet for Korea 50 Hwan according to our

consignor ☆ 1969-D quarter. AU-58. Double clip ☆ 1971-D quarter. AU-50. Triple clip and broadstruck ☆ 1982 quarter. VF-35. Reverse cud at 4:30 ☆ 1976 half dollar. AU-55. 15% off-center at 9:00. (Total: 7 pieces)

515 1917 dime. Broadstruck out of collar. MS-64 FB (PCGS). A delightful example with satin ivory lustre and very faint gold toning. Exceptional surfaces. This Mercury dime error is sure to please.

516 1988 dime. Double struck. MS-60. The second strike is 70% off-center at 8:30. Full dates are visible on both impressions. An impressive oddity.



517 2000 dime. Deep die cap. MS-65 (PCGS). Sharply defined obverse inside the cap with fully prooflike fields. The reverse design is expanded due to multiple impressions against additional blank planchets fed into the press.



518 1920-S Standing Liberty quarter partial brockage. EF-45. Bright silver with warm golden highlights. An unusual error. The top of the obverse shows a shallow dished area with the reversed letters AMERIC and E PLURI from the reverse of another Standing Liberty quarter. On the reverse of the present piece, the edge reeding has been folded over into the design at QUARTER DOLLAR, opposite the obverse tab striking.

519 Undated Washington quarter struck on silver 10-cent planchet. AU-58 (PCGS). This has a visible mintmark that appears to be a D although our consignor suggested the possibility of an S mintmark or even an overmintmark as in 1950-S/D!

520 Undated Washington quarter struck on clad 10-cent planchet. MS-64 (PCGS). Lustrous gray surfaces. Washington's profile and IN GOD WE TRUST are visible on the obverse.

521 1999 Connecticut quarter. Partial collar with 15% indent on obverse. MS-64 (PCGS). Subdued satiny gray lustre.

The State reverse quarter dollars have introduced a new dimension of enthusiasm to coin collecting, and millions of people have found it enjoyable to acquire one from each of the States. As a class, mint errors are much rarer, but still available on occasion as here—lending further interest to the fascinating series.

522 Undated state quarter, noted as a 2000-dated issue per our consignor. Double struck with both strikes 80 to 90% off-center. The "reverse" displays a brockage impression from each obverse strike. MS-63 (PCGS). Interesting in as much as this is a modern quarter dollar intended to have a State reverse, but on the present issue, there is no indication of any state at all!



523 2001 New York quarter. Triple struck with the second and third strikes each about 50% off-center at 8:30, closely overlapping. MS-64 (PCGS). This is a very exciting state quarter error with pale gray lustre and faint toning. Bound to attract a lot of attention!



524 2001 New York quarter. Quadruple struck with the first strike centered and additional strikes each about 65% off-center at 8:30, all closely overlapping. MS-65 (PCGS). An attractive and intriguing error with satiny light gray lustre and pale gold toning. Another show stopper!



525 2001 North Carolina quarter. Double struck with the second strike about 35% off-center. MS-64 (PCGS). Satiny lustre with light golden toning. Yet another fascinating piece.



526 2001 North Carolina quarter. Quadruple struck with the first strike centered and each additional strike about 25% off-center at 2:30. MS-64 (PCGS). A desirable example with outstanding satiny gray lustre and light gold toning. How lucky you are! The opportunity to find such pieces may be as important as the price paid. And, as the years slip by and more State quarters are made, the earlier varieties will become all the more desirable.

527 1993-D half dollar. Double struck with the second strike at least 85% off-center. MS-62 (PCGS). Only RT and the back of Kennedy's head are visible on the second strike. Pale gray satin lustre.

528 Quartette of error dollars: ☆ 1921 Peace dollar. EF-40. Minor lamination at date ☆ 1979 Anthony dollar. MS-60. Broadstruck out of collar ☆ 1979 Anthony dollar. AU-55. Broadstruck out of collar ☆ 1979 Anthony dollar. AU-55. 7% off-center at 1:00. (Total: 4 pieces)

529 Undated Eisenhower dollar die trial. MS-60. Very faint traces of detail are present. This piece apparently was used to set up the dies on the press, to adjust the spacing. A very important coin from a technical viewpoint, this and the other Eisenhower dollars being from Dave Bowers' personal collection, gathered years ago, and now consigned to us.

530 Undated Eisenhower dollar die trial. EF-45. At first glance, this appears to be a struck Eisenhower dollar worn nearly smooth. Traces of lustre suggest otherwise. A die trial setup piece that saw light circulation, perhaps a piece that slipped out into the channels of commerce. One of just a few such pieces seen over a number of years. Another prize item, although only a numismatist could love it!

531 Half dozen Eisenhower dollars, each with curved clipped planchets. Each coin grades MS-60 or finer: ☆ 1971-D 10% at 3:30 ☆ 1972-D 5% at 8:00 ☆ 1974 5% at 1:00 ☆ 1974-D 8% at 7:00 ☆ 1976 5% at 11:00 ☆ 1978-D 5% at 5:00. An opportunity to secure with a single bid a virtual mini-collection of odd and curious Eisenhower dollars. Dave enjoyed owning and studying these, and you will also. (Total: 6 pieces)



532 1971-D dollar. Double struck. MS-60. One impression is centered with the other impression approximately 15% off-center at 10:30. An attractive example with pale gray lustre and light iridescent toning. Such pieces are quite scarce, and this is one of the nicest Dave was able to locate for his set.



533 1972-D dollar. Struck on Filipino 1 Piso planchet. MS-60. Sharply defined with lustrous light yellowish gray surfaces. Someone wasn't paying attention at the Mint!

Weight: 219.5 grains.

534 Assorted Eisenhower dollars with various errors. These grade from AU-50 to MS-60 or finer: ☆ 1972 with obverse die substantially filled by grease ☆ 1973 similar to previous ☆ 1976 10% straight-clip at 4:30 ☆ 1976 broadstruck out of collar, nearly centered. Heavy obverse scratches ☆ 1977 Double struck. The second strike is at least 95% off-center ☆ 1978-D 5% curved clip at 2:30 ☆ Type II blank planchet. A very pleasing and interesting group. (Total: 7 pieces)

535 Selection of five Eisenhower dollars, each with two curved clips. Average grade MS-60 to MS-63. Each clip is approximately 5% unless otherwise noted: ☆ 1972-D 1:00 and 6:30 ☆ 1974-D 2% at 4:00 and 10% at 10:00 ☆ 1976-D Type I reverse. 11:30 and 1:30 ☆ 1976-D Type II reverse. 1:30 and 11:30 ☆ 1976-D Type II reverse. 1:00 and 6:30. (Total: 5 pieces)

Mint Error Proof Eisenhower Dollar!



536 1973-S dollar. Broadstruck out of collar. 40% silver. Proof-60. This is an absolutely amazing error, one of very few Proof errors ever to leave the Mint. Reflective silvery gray with very light toning. The owner of this wanted \$4,000 for it years ago, but Dave thought that a bit much and was able to buy it for less. However, after making the purchase he never saw another. Lucky him then. Lucky you now!



537 1974-D dollar. Corner clip struck on a planchet cut from one corner of planchet stock. MS-63. This is an extremely rare error type that is sure to delight the specialist. An attractive example with lustrous pale gray surfaces.

It is important to note that Dave's entire collection of Eisenhower dollars is offered in this section of the catalogue—not a single piece has been saved or picked out. You have absolutely first chance.

538 1974-D dollar. Struck on Filipino 1 Piso planchet. MS-63. Highly lustrous with satiny yellowish gray surfaces.

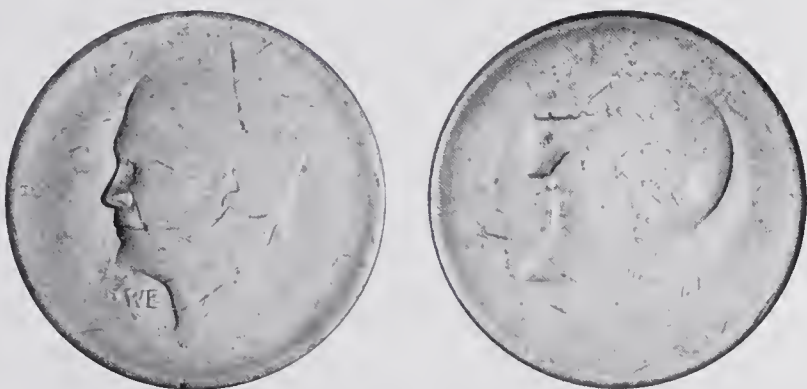
539 1974-D dollar. MS-63 (ANACS). Struck on a 40% silver planchet. Wrong metal alloy! Highly lustrous with brilliant silvery surfaces. This is a delightful example and seldom offered.

540 Five bicentennial Eisenhower dollars with clipped planchets. Each MS-60 or finer: ☆ 1976 Type II. 5% curved clip at 10:30 ☆ 1976-D Type I. 20% curved clip at 1:00 ☆ 1976-D Type II. 20% curved clip at 2:00 ☆ 1976-D Type II. 10% straight clip at 11:00 ☆ 1976-D Type II. 5% straight clip at 9:00. (Total: 5 pieces)

- 541 1976-D dollar. Quadruple clipped planchet. MS-63. Side-by-side clips occur at 1:30 and 7:30. Sharply struck with exceptional gray lustre. This is a highly attractive example that should attract the attention of specialized collectors. *Only one other example is known, to our knowledge, and is housed in the ANA museum.*

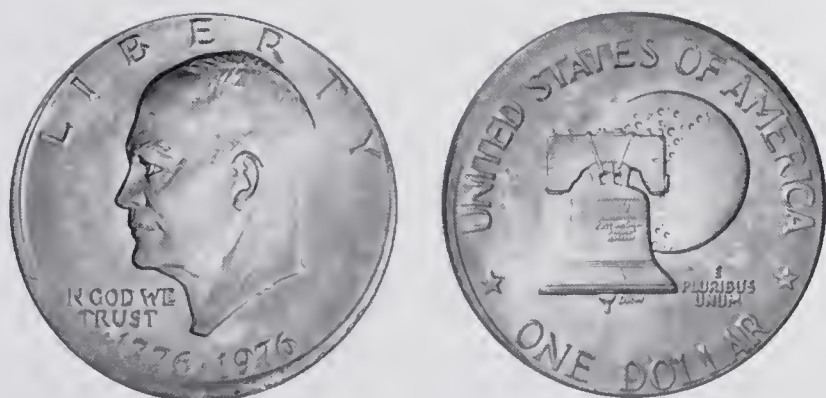


- 542 1976-D dollar. Broadstruck on 45% clipped planchet at 2:00. MS-64. This is one of the largest clipped planchets known to us. This is a wonderful example and likely to receive considerable bidder interest.



- 543 Undated (1976) Bicentennial dollar. Die trial or setup coin. MS-60. Very weak obverse and reverse details are visible. A "gem" coin numismatically speaking, a first class mint error, a first class curiosity! However, a beginning numismatist when confronted with such a piece might scratch his head in puzzlement! Of course, such illogical situations are what make mint errors fascinating.

350.1 grains.



- 544 1976 dollar. Type II reverse. Uncentered broadstrike out of collar. Mostly plain edge. MS-60. Lustrous yellowish gray surfaces with a hint of blue toning. Only some traces of edge reeding are visible.

Sensational Mint Error 1976-D Eisenhower \$1



- 545 1976-D dollar. Capped die. MS-63. This is an amazing deep capped die measuring 6.8 millimeters deep. The reverse has a greatly expanded brockage image of President Eisenhower. This certainly ranks as one of the highlights in the present offering of Eisenhower dollar errors. This cost Dave \$4,000 years ago, and ever since that time not a single other specimen has been seen. One can imagine that this will be the absolute highlight of a mint error collection of Eisenhower dollars or, for that matter, in any mint error collection.

- 546 1978 dollar. MS-63. Nearly 10% off-center at 1:00. An impressive example with outstanding satiny gray lustre. A small horizontal scratch is noted on the obverse.

- 547 1978 dollar. MS-60. 60% off-center at 12:30. An attractive example with satiny gray lustre.



- 548 1978 dollar. MS-60. 90% off-center at 12:00 with fully visible date, combined with a 2% clip at 5:00. An intriguing double error.

With this lot, Dave Bowers' personal collection of Eisenhower dollar error coins ends.



- 549 1999 Anthony dollar. MS-65 (PCGS). Struck 40% off-center at 1:00. Lustrous pale gray with slightly prooflike fields. An attractive example for the specialist.

- 550 2000 Sacagawea dollar. MS-64 (PCGS). The reverse is rotated 140°. A pleasing example with lustrous golden surfaces and wisps of very light toning.

PROOF SETS

- 551 **1941 Proof set cent through half dollar:** ☆ Cent. Proof-66 RD. Brilliant ☆ Nickel. Proof-65. Brilliant and reflective ☆ Dime. Proof-64. Soft mottled golden gray over both surfaces ☆ Quarter. Proof-64. Hints of mottled golden gray toning on both surfaces ☆ Half dollar. Proof-65. Reflective with splash of golden toning at the obverse center. Accompanied by the original box of issue. (Total: 5 pieces)
- 552 **1942 six-piece Proof set cent through half dollar:** ☆ Cent. Proof-65 RD. Brilliant with only a couple of spots noted ☆ Nickel. Type I. Proof-66. Lovely soft pearl gray iridescence ☆ Nickel. Type II. Proof-65. Reflective with golden toning at the devices ☆ Dime. Proof-66. Reflective with splash of soft golden brown ☆ Quarter. Proof-63. Reflective ☆ Half dollar. Proof-64. Splashes of pale golden brown and blue at the peripheries. Accompanied by original box of issue. (Total: 6 pieces)
- 553 **1950 five-piece Proof set, average grade Proof-64:** ☆ Cent. RD. A few spots are noted on the obverse under magnification ☆ Nickel. Reflective with soft golden toning at the centers and gunmetal-blue at the peripheries ☆ Dime. Splashes of golden toning on both surfaces ☆ Quarter. Brilliant and reflective with frosted reverse devices ☆ Half dollar. Brilliant with the reverse lightly frosted. Housed in a Capital plastic holder. (Total: 5 pieces)
- First Proof set issued following the suspension (for wartime exigencies) in 1942. In 1950 these Proof sets were sold for \$2.10, with each coin in its own cellophane envelope.
- 554 **Trio of 1950s Proof sets average grade Proof-64, some finer:** ☆ 1950 ☆ 1952 ☆ 1953. The cents are red with most of the silver having iridescent reddish brown, blue and or lavender toning. Each is housed in a Capital plastic holder. (Total: 3 sets, 15 pieces)
- 555 **1950 Proof set grading Proof-65:** ☆ cent. Red. Brilliant and reflective ☆ nickel. Reflective with a whisper of golden highlights ☆ dime. Reflective with splashes of mottled toning and a minute spot on the reverse ☆ quarter. Splashes of golden orange at the obverse periphery ☆ half dollar. Mottled reddish brown with a touch of blue mostly on the obverse. Accompanied by the original box of issue. (Total: 5 pieces, 1 box)
- 556 **1951 Proof set with grade averaging Proof-64:** ☆ Cent. RB. Reverse toning ☆ Nickel. Splashes of soft golden toning ☆ Dime. Pale lavender at the peripheries ☆ Quarter. Pale lavender highlights on both surfaces ☆ Half dollar. Mixture of golden and lavender highlights. (Total: 5 pieces)
- 557 **Quartette of Proof sets from the 1950s, with the average grade being Proof-64:** ☆ 1952 ☆ 1953 ☆ 1954 ☆ 1955. Each set has traces of light toning. Each is housed in a Capital plastic holder. (Total: 4 sets, 20 pieces)
- 558 **Quintette of Proof sets:** ☆ 1952 Proof-64 to Proof-65 ☆ 1955 Proof-65 (2) ☆ 1956 Proof-65 (2). All cents are red with most of the silver coins brilliant and reflective. A few with splashes of delicate toning. One set is housed in a Capital plastic holder while the rest are in original cellophane with envelopes. (Total: 5 sets, 25 pieces)

HAWAIIAN COINS

Fantasy "1884" Hawaii Half Dollar

Struck on a U.S. Large Cent

Ex King Farouk



- 559 **1884 half dollar. Struck on U.S. large cent. Proof-62 RB (PCI).** Yellow and violet iridescence mingle on the matte-like surfaces of this rare and highly prized fantasy issue. Overstruck on a U.S. large cent, possibly a Matron Head cent. Reportedly struck in the 1940s from new fantasy dies. This writer (Frank Van Valen) once handled an "1884" Hawaiian quarter struck on a cutdown 1893 Columbian Exposition half dollar!

When the present piece is held with the portrait of King Kalakaua facing downward, the denomination ONE CENT is plainly seen, as is one of the berries from the wreath of the cent, the berry being visible on the back point of the King's neck. On the reverse, what is apparently a 3 and another following numeral (perhaps a second 3 or an 8) can be seen at PONO in the legend. The planchet is considerably thinner than a large cent, as it spread out to fill the half dollar dies when overstruck; its thinness is apparent when viewed in the holder. Here, then, is a great and popular rarity, a coin that will undoubtedly see substantial bidding activity from large cent collectors and aficionados of the Hawaiian series as well—with the full realization that this is a modern fantasy, but collectible as such.

From Sotheby & Co.'s sale of the Palace Collection of Egypt (King Farouk), February-March 1954, Lot 2064.

- 560 **1883 quarter dollar. Repunched Date. MS-62 (ANACS).** Lustrous and brilliant with a whisper of rich golden iridescence at the rims. A satiny specimen, and quite pleasing for the grade overall.

Repunching can be seen within the loops of the first 8 in the date, and also at the upper ball of the 3 in the date.

MISCELLANEOUS U.S. COINS

Type Coin Bonanza!

- 561 **A selection of popular type coins from half cents to silver dollars to commemoratives—read, contemplate, then bid:** Half cents: ☆ 1806 Net EF-40 ☆ 1835 Net VF-35 ☆ 1850 EF-40. Large cents: ☆ 1855 Upright 5. EF-40. Small cents: ☆ 1857 EF-45 ☆ 1859 EF-45 ☆ 1863 Net EF-45 ☆ 1909 V.D.B. MS-65 RD ☆ 1943 Steel. MS-64 ☆ 1957 Proof-65 RD ☆ 1980-S Proof-65. Two-cent pieces: ☆ 1865 Net EF-45. Three-cent pieces: ☆ 1860 silver. EF-40 ☆ 1868 nickel. EF-40. Half dimes: ☆ 1830 Net F-12 ☆ 1858 EF-40 ☆ 1853 Net EF-40 ☆ 1871 Net EF-40. Five-cent pieces: ☆ 1866 Rays. Net EF-45 ☆ 1869 Net EF-45 ☆ 1883 No CENTS. AU-55 ☆ 1906 AU-55 ☆ 1913 Type I. MS-60 ☆ 1938-D Buffalo. MS-65 ☆ 1980-S Proof-65 ☆ 1912-S Type II. MS-63. Dimes: ☆ 1833 EF-45 ☆ 1845 EF-45 ☆ 1853 Arrows. Net EF-40 ☆ 1897 AU-50 ☆ 1891-O Net EF-40 ☆ 1911-S Net EF-40 ☆ 1943 MS-63 ☆ 1964 Proof-65 ☆ 1980-S Proof-65.

Twenty-cent pieces: ☆ 1875-S EF-45. Quarters: ☆ 1837 Net EF-40 ☆ 1853 Arrows and Rays. VF-35 ☆ 1856 Net EF-40 ☆ 1877-S Net EF-45 ☆ 1916-D Barber. Net EF-45 ☆ 1917 Type I. Net VF-35 ☆ 1930-S Type II. Net AU-50 ☆ 1963 MS-63 ☆ 1980-S Proof-65. Half dollars: ☆ 1824 Net EF-45 ☆ 1839 Reeded edge. Net VG-10 ☆ 1853 Arrows. EF-45 ☆ 1859-O Net VF-35 ☆ 1877-S (2). Net AU-50, Net EF-40 ☆ 1914-S Net VF-20 ☆ 1912 Net AU-55 ☆ 1957 Proof-64 ☆ 1964 MS-65 ☆ 1976-S Proof-65 ☆ 1980-S Proof-65. Dollars: ☆ 1847 AU-50 ☆ 1872 Net AU-50 ☆ 1880-S MS-62 ☆ 1923 MS-60 ☆ 1971-D MS-60 ☆ 1976-S Proof-65 ☆ 1980-S Proof-65 ☆ 1877-S trade. Net AU-50. Commemorative half dollars: ☆ 1936-S Bay Bridge. Net AU-55 ☆ 1954 Carver-Washington. MS-60 ☆ 1925 Stone Mountain. Net AU-55. A few with minor problems are sharper for fines. Housed in an album. (Total: 68 pieces)

562 Varied trio. An interesting and diverse threesome, all certified by INS, with our commentaries modifying these grades in two instances, but you are invited to make your own decisions: ☆ 1809 half cent. B-6, C-6. EF-40 (INS-EF-45) ☆ 1875-S twenty-cent piece. AU-55 or finer (INS-AU-55) ☆ 1876 half dollar. MS-62 (INS-MS-65). Somewhat dusky surfaces, pale gray and silver. (Total: 3 pieces)

563 Selection of 19th-century coins: ☆ 1803 cent. S-258. Small Date, Large Fraction. Net F-12, sharpness of VF-20, lightly porous, light patina ☆ 1810 cent. S-283. Normal Date. Net F-12, sharpness of VF-20, porosity ☆ 1816 N-2. AU-58. Glossy brown surfaces ☆ 1857 Flying Eagle cent. AU-50. Attractive surfaces ☆ 1864 two-cent piece. Large Motto. MS-63 BN. Lustrous dark brown surfaces ☆ 1868 nickel. AU-50. Light golden surfaces ☆ 1876 nickel. AU-55. Lustrous with soft golden gray surfaces ☆ 1883 Shield nickel. EF-40. Olive-gold toning over both surfaces. (Total: 8 pieces)

564 Quintette of certified Mint State coins: ☆ 1863 cent. MS-63 (PCGS) ☆ 1908 cent. MS-64 RD (PCGS) ☆ 1866 nickel three-cent piece. MS-64 (PCGS) ☆ 1908 nickel. MS-63 (NGC) ☆ 1921-D Morgan dollar. MS-64 (PCGS). Each is attractive with various degrees of delicate toning. (Total: 5 pieces)

565 Quintette of copper and silver coins: ☆ 1872 cent. EF-40. Highly important key date ☆ 1837 Liberty Seated, No Stars dime. Net VF-25; sharpness of EF-40, edge damage ☆ 1806 quarter. B-9. G-4 ☆ 1930 quarter MS-60. Lustrous ☆ 1853 Arrows and Rays half dollar. EF-40. (Total: 5 pieces)

566 Quintette of coins: ☆ 1864 Large Motto. Two-cent piece. MS-63 RB. Splashes of mottled toning over lustrous surfaces ☆ 1916-D Barber quarter. AU-50 (ANACS). Deep golden rose with splashes of darker toning on both surfaces ☆ 1896 dollar. MS-64 DMPL (ANACS). Reflective with splashes of gold, magenta, and gun-metal-blue at the peripheries ☆ 1878-S trade dollar. Net VF-30; sharpness of VF-35, cleaned ☆ 1881 half eagle. AU-50. Lustrous with splashes of red at the peripheries. (Total: 5 pieces)

567 Grouping of small denomination coins: ☆ 1865 nickel three-cent piece. AU-58. Golden gray with soft rose highlights on both surfaces ☆ 1853 silver three-cent piece. AU-50. Minute spotting noted on both surfaces ☆ 1861 silver three-cent piece. AU-50. Pale rose at the peripheries ☆ 1831 half dime. LM-2. Rarity-3. AU-55. Lustrous with golden toning at the peripheries ☆ 1836 half dime. LM-5. EF-45. Steel blue and golden at the obverse periphery, mottled blue, gold, and magenta toning on the reverse ☆ 1859 half dime. AU-50. Cleaned long ago ☆ 1827 dime. JR-6. VF-20. Soft golden gray surfaces ☆ 1831 dime. JR-1. Large 4. EF-15. Lustre remaining ☆ 1915-S dime. MS-65. Brilliant and lustrous. (Total: 9 pieces)

568 Quartette of certified coins: ☆ 1860 silver three-cent piece. AU-58 (NGC). Rich gun metal-blue fields with lavender and magenta

centers ☆ 1899 dime. MS-62 (PCGS). Golden brown toning at the peripheries ☆ 1913 dime. MS-60 (PCGS). Splashes of golden olive and blue at the peripheries ☆ 1894 half dollar. AU-50 (PCGS). Pale golden rose on both surfaces. (Total: 4 pieces)

569 Trio of PCGS-certified coins: ☆ 1938-D Buffalo nickel. MS-66. Lustrous with splashes of yellow gold toning and a few minute spots ☆ 1941 dime. Proof-65 (PCGS). Reflective with a very faint spot on the reverse ☆ 1917-D Type I quarter. MS-63 (PCGS). Soft pearl gray surfaces with some spotting noted. (Total: 3 pieces)

570 Grouping of Barber coins: ☆ 1901 dime. AU-58. Lustrous with a whisper of gold at the peripheries ☆ 1911 dime. MS-61. Golden toning on both surfaces ☆ 1892 quarter. Type II reverse. AU-55. brushed ☆ 1900-O half dollar. EF-45. Splashes of golden rose on both surfaces. (Total: 4 pieces)

571 Pair of Mint State silver coins: ☆ 1905-S dime. MS-60. Soft smokey gray toning over lustrous surfaces ☆ 1937 Roanoke half dollar. MS-63. Lustrous with delicate golden highlights. (Total: 2 pieces)

572 Grouping of Proof and Mint State silver coins: ☆ 1940 dime. Proof-65. Reflective with golden toning at the peripheries ☆ 1941 dime. Proof-65. Reflective with lovely soft golden highlights on both surfaces ☆ 1945 half dollar. MS-64. Lustrous ☆ 1945-D half dollar. MS-63. Lustrous with a mixture of pale golden orange and splashes of blue on the reverse ☆ 1946-S half dollar MS-63. Lustrous ☆ 1947-D half dollar. MS-63. Lustrous with splashes of soft golden frost on both surfaces ☆ 1956 half dollar (2). Proof-67. Brilliant and reflective orange peel surfaces; Proof-66. Reflective with a touch of golden frost on both surfaces ☆ 1961 half dollars (5). Proof-66 (3). Each is brilliant and reflective; Proof-65 (2). One has golden toning at the peripheries while the other has minute spotting noted ☆ 1963 half dollar (3). Proof-65 (2). Both are brilliant and reflective; Proof-64. Minute spotting noted ☆ 1935-S San Diego. MS-64. Lustrous with golden and pale blue iridescence on the obverse. (Total: 13 pieces)

573 Trio of silver coins: ☆ 1945-D dime. MS-67 FB (ICG). Brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1932-S quarter. AU-58 (ANACS). Golden toning over lustrous surfaces ☆ 1888 dollar. MS-65 (ICG). Satiny lustre. (Total: 3 pieces)

574 Grouping of silver coins: ☆ 1807 quarter. B-1. Rarity-3. VG-8. Half dollars: ☆ 1820 O-103a. Net VF-20 ☆ 1820 O-108. Net F-12 ☆ 1827 O-136. Rarity-3. VF-20 ☆ 1833 O-102. VF-20 ☆ 1833 O-106. AU-50 ☆ 1833 O-111. Rarity-4. Net VF-20 ☆ 1833 O-114. VF-30 ☆ 1911-S VF-30. Most with various degrees of silver gray. A few are finer for sharpness, but have been cleaned at one time. (Total: 9 pieces)

575 Quintette of half dollars grading F-12 to F-15: ☆ 1808 (3). Each with soft medium silver gray surfaces ☆ 1809. Deep steel blue toning ☆ 1810. Golden gray with just a hint of lavender highlights. (Total: 5 pieces)

576 Quintette of early half dollars: ☆ 1808 F-12. Smooth brownish gray surfaces ☆ 1809 Net VG-10. Cleaned long ago with a few minor rim nicks noted ☆ 1811 (2). F-15. Soft lavender-gray with rose highlights, F-12. Deep golden orange and blue toning on both surfaces ☆ 1819 Net VF-25; sharpness of EF-40, cleaned. (Total: 5 pieces)

577 A half dozen Capped Bust half dollars: ☆ 1809 O-106. Rarity-3. Normal edge. EF-10 ☆ 1812 O-103. F-15 ☆ 1824 O-113. Normal Date. EF-45 ☆ 1825 O-113. Rarity-3. VF-30 ☆ 1826 O-106. Rarity-3. VF-30 ☆ 1827 O-112. Rarity-3. Square Base 2. EF-10. All are attractively toned. (Total: 6 pieces)

- 578 **Grouping of half dollars:** ☆ 1809 EF-40 ☆ 1811 EF-40 ☆ 1812 VF-30 (2) ☆ 1823 EF-40 ☆ 1824 EF-40 (2) ☆ 1825 (2) EF-40 (2), Net VF-20. Each with various degrees of toning with a few pieces having been cleaned at one time or another. (Total: 10 pieces)
- 579 Quintette of half dollars: ☆ 1809 VF-30. Artificially toned ☆ 1810 VF-20. Scratched and rim damage ☆ 1811 VF-20. Rich steel gray surfaces ☆ 1812 (2). VF-30. Cleaned, VF-20. Medium gray surfaces. (Total: 5 pieces)
- 580 Quintette of half dollars: ☆ 1812 (2). EF-45, VF-25 ☆ 1819/8 Overdate. EF-45 ☆ 1819 VF-20 ☆ 1820 EF-40. A few have been cleaned with a couple having scratches or rim bruising. (Total: 5 pieces)
- 581 Grouping of half dollars: ☆ 1820/19 Overdate. F-12 ☆ 1820 VF-20 ☆ 1822 VF-20 ☆ 1823 VF-20 ☆ 1824 VF-30 (3) ☆ 1825 (3). EF-45, VG-10, VG-8. Each with various degrees of silver gray toning. A few pieces have been cleaned at one time. (Total: 10 pieces)
- 582 **Grouping of half dollars:** ☆ 1820 EF-40. Soft golden gray surfaces ☆ 1821 VF-35. Cleaned ☆ 1823 VF-35. Golden gray with obverse scratch ☆ 1824 EF-40. Cleaned ☆ 1825 EF-40. Golden brown at the peripheries ☆ 1826 VF-30. Rich grayish brown ☆ 1827 VF-35. Cleaned ☆ 1828 EF-40. Golden gray with splashes of blue and rich gold at the peripheries ☆ 1829 (2). VF-35, VF-30. Both with toning. (Total: 10 pieces)
- 583 Quintette of half dollars with a few having minor problems: ☆ 1820 EF-40 ☆ 1824 EF-45 ☆ 1825 EF-40 ☆ 1828 EF-40 ☆ 1829 VF-30. Each with various degrees of rich toning. A few have been cleaned with one having been repaired. (Total: 5 pieces)
- 584 Quintette of half dollars: ☆ 1820 (2) VF-30, VF-20 ☆ 1821 VF-25 ☆ 1822 VF-20 ☆ 1823 F-15. Each with various degrees of toning, most deep rich brownish gray. A few with minor problems. (Total: 5 pieces)
- 585 **Grouping of early half dollars:** ☆ 1820 Net VG-8. Scarce date ☆ 1821 VF-20 ☆ 1822 VF-20 ☆ 1824/4 VF-25 ☆ 1824 VF-20 ☆ 1825 (2). VF-30, VF-20 ☆ 1826 VF-35 ☆ 1827 (2). VF-25, VF-20 ☆ 1828 (2). VF-25, VF-20 ☆ 1829 (3). Net VF-25, VF-25, VF-20 ☆ 1830 (4). Net VF-35, VF-30, VF-25 (2) ☆ 1833 VF-25. Each with various degrees of rich toning. A few with minor problems. (Total: 20 pieces)
- 586 Grouping of half dollars: ☆ 1821 (2). F-12, VG-10 ☆ 1822 VF-20 ☆ 1824/4 F-12 ☆ 1824 VF-20 ☆ 1826 VF-20 ☆ 1827 G-4 ☆ 1828 G-6 ☆ 1829 G-4 ☆ 1830 G-4. A few pieces have been cleaned, with one plugged. (Total: 10 pieces)
- 587 **Selection of half dollars:** ☆ 1822 EF-40 ☆ 1823 EF-45 ☆ 1824 (3). EF-45, EF-40 (2) ☆ 1825 VF-30 ☆ 1826 (2). VF-35, VF-30 ☆ 1827 (2). EF-40, VF-30 ☆ 1830 (4). EF-40 (3), VF-30 ☆ 1831 (3). EF-40, VF-25 (2) ☆ 1832 EF-40 ☆ 1835 VF-35 ☆ 1836 EF-40. Each with various degrees of toning with a few having deep rich toning at the peripheries, a few with minor problems. (Total: 20 pieces)
- 588 Quintette of half dollars grading EF-40 to EF-45: ☆ 1824 ☆ 1825 ☆ 1826 (2) ☆ 1827. Each with various degrees of rich lavender-gray toning, a few have been cleaned long ago. (Total: 5 pieces)
- 589 **Grouping of early half dollars:** ☆ 1824 F-12 ☆ 1826 F-12 ☆ 1827 (3). VF-35, F-15, F-12 ☆ 1828 (3). VF-30, VG-10, VG-8 ☆ 1829 (3). VG-8, G-7, G-5 ☆ 1830 F-12 ☆ 1831 VG-10 ☆ 1833 (3). F-12 (2), VG-10 ☆ 1831 F-12 (2) ☆ 1836 VG-8 (2). Most with medium silver gray surfaces, with a few deeper. Some pieces have been lightly cleaned long ago. (Total: 20 pieces)
- 590 **Grouping of half dollars grading EF-40 to EF-45:** ☆ 1825 (2) ☆ 1827 ☆ 1828 ☆ 1829 (2) ☆ 1830 ☆ 1831 (2) ☆ 1832. Most have various degrees of silver gray toning. A few have been cleaned long ago. (Total: 10 pieces)
- 591 **Grouping of half dollars:** ☆ 1825 EF-40 ☆ 1827 EF-40 ☆ 1828 EF-40 ☆ 1829 (2). EF-45, VF-35 ☆ 1831 (2). EF-40, VF-30 ☆ 1834 (2). AU-50, EF-45 ☆ 1836 EF-40. Most with minor problems, cleaned, repaired, or artificially toned. In-person inspection is recommended. (Total: 10 pieces)
- 592 Quintette of half dollars grading EF-40 to EF-45: ☆ 1825 (2) ☆ 1832 ☆ 1834 (2). Lightly cleaned with one artificially toned. (Total: 5 pieces)
- 593 Grouping of half dollars: ☆ 1825 VF-30 ☆ 1826 EF-40 ☆ 1827 VF-30 ☆ 1829 VF-30 ☆ 1830 VF-30 ☆ 1831 VF-30 ☆ 1832 VF-25 ☆ 1834 (2) VF-35, VF-30 ☆ 1835 EF-40. Most with silver gray surfaces with several having been cleaned and one with artificial toning. (Total: 10 pieces)
- 594 **Grouping of half dollars:** ☆ 1826 EF-40 ☆ 1827 EF-40 ☆ 1830 (2). EF-40, VF-30 ☆ 1831 (3). EF-45, EF-40, VF-30 ☆ 1832 EF-40 (2) ☆ 1836 VF-35. Most with silver gray surfaces with a few having been cleaned and one artificially toned. (Total: 10 pieces)
- 595 **Grouping of half dollars grading VF-20 to EF-40:** ☆ 1827 (3) ☆ 1829 (3) ☆ 1831 (3) ☆ 1832 ☆ 1834 (4) ☆ 1833 (3) ☆ 1835 (2) ☆ 1836. All have been cleaned at one time and now retoned various degrees of silver gray. (Total: 20 pieces)
- 596 **Grouping of half dollars grading VF-20 to VF-30:** ☆ 1827 (7) ☆ 1829 (4) ☆ 1832 (2) ☆ 1833 ☆ 1834 (3) ☆ 1835 (2) ☆ 1836. Several have been cleaned long ago. (Total: 20 pieces)
- 597 **Grouping of half dollars grading EF-40 to EF-45:** ☆ 1828 ☆ 1829 ☆ 1830 ☆ 1831 (2) ☆ 1832 (2) ☆ 1833 (2) ☆ 1834. Most with silver gray surfaces, a few have been cleaned or artificially toned. (Total: 10 pieces)
- 598 Grouping of half dollars grading VF-30 to EF-40: ☆ 1829 ☆ 1830 ☆ 1831 ☆ 1832 ☆ 1833 ☆ 1834 (2) ☆ 1835 ☆ 1836 (2). A few have been cleaned at one time. One has been artificially toned. (Total: 10 pieces)
- 599 **Grouping of half dollars grading VF-20 to VF-30:** ☆ 1830 (2) ☆ 1831 (4) ☆ 1832 ☆ 1833 (4) ☆ 1834 (4) ☆ 1835 (2) ☆ 1836 (3). Several have been cleaned at one time. (Total: 20 pieces)
- 600 Pair of half dollars, each of a different design type: ☆ 1837 AU-50. 50 CENTS reverse ☆ 1838 AU-55. HALF DOL. reverse. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 601 Pair of Liberty Seated half dollars: ☆ 1853 Arrows and Rays. EF-45 ☆ 1859 AU-50. A nice duo. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 602 Grouping of Mint State half dollars: ☆ 1934 MS-61 ☆ 1937-S MS-63 ☆ 1938 MS-61 ☆ 1939-S MS-64 ☆ 1940-S MS-60 ☆ 1941 MS-63 ☆ 1942 MS-63 ☆ 1944 MS-63. Spots ☆ 1946-S MS-63. A pleasing selection. (Total: 9 pieces)
- 603 Pair of Liberty Walking half dollars grading MS-65 (PCGS): ☆ 1936-D. Lovely golden rose toning on the obverse, the reverse is brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1938. Satiny surfaces. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 604 **Pair of Proof Liberty Walking half dollars:** ☆ 1938 Proof-63 ☆ 1939 Proof-64. Both exhibit a nuance of golden toning. (Total: 2 pieces)

- 605 **Trio of Proof Liberty Walking half dollars:** ☆ 1940 Proof-63. Toning spots ☆ 1941 No designer's initials. Proof-64 ☆ 1942 Proof-64. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 606 **Original bank-wrapped roll of 1940 half dollars,** grades average MS-63 to MS-64. An attractive roll overall. (Total: 20 pieces)
- 607 **Original bank-wrapped roll of 1941 half dollars,** with grades averaging MS-64 to MS-65. A nice group. (Total: 20 pieces)
- 608 Nearly complete "short set" of Liberty Walking half dollars grading MS-60 to MS-63, lacking just the 1942-S and 1944-S issues for completeness. (Total: 18 pieces)
- 609 **Original bank-wrapped roll of 1942 half dollars,** average grade MS-65 or so, with many finer pieces included. We would not be greatly surprised to find that more than one superb MS-67 gem was pulled from this roll! Worthy of careful scrutiny; this group will hold up well even under the most critical eye. (Total: 20 pieces)
- 610 Grouping of attractive and lustrous 1946-D half dollars with grades averaging MS-63 to MS-64. All show delicate golden highlights. A nice group. (Total: 8 pieces)
- 611 **Quartette of Franklin half dollars grading MS-65 FBL (PCGS):** ☆ 1948. Rich pearl gray with deep rose at the rims ☆ 1952-D. Mottled golden gray toning on both surfaces ☆ 1957-D. Mottled olive-gray with splashes of reddish brown ☆ 1959-D. Lustrous with soft golden toning. (Total: 4 pieces)
- 612 Complete set of Franklin half dollars, average grades of MS-62 through MS-66. The majority grade MS-63 or 64. Many have Full Bell Line details. The 1960, 1961, 1962, and 1963 issues are Proof-65 to 66. Some coins are toned, others are brilliant. A nice group, housed in a custom Capital Plastics holder. (Total: 35 pieces)
- This is a very "nice" set and one that would have been just dandy for almost any numismatist 20 or 30 years ago—before close attention was paid to "numbers" and to bell lines. Today in 2001, a set such as this is valued at just a few hundred dollars—in our opinion a lot of coins for the money, and a very pleasing panorama encompassing the entire scope of this particular design.
- 613 Complete set of Franklin half dollars 1948 through 1963-D, grading MS-63 with some finer. A nice set with some pieces toned. Housed in Wayne Raymond holders. (Total: 35 pieces)
- The comment under Lot 612 is equally appropriate to the present lot.
- 614 Complete set of Franklin half dollars 1948 through 1963-D, grading MS-63. A few pieces have light toning. (Total: 35 pieces)
- The preceding commentary is likewise appropriate here.
- 615 **Trio of branch mint Franklin halves grading MS-65 FBL (PCGS):** ☆ 1948-D ☆ 1953-D. Minute spotting noted on the obverse ☆ 1954-S. Each is lustrous with a touch of delicate toning. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 616 **Quartette of half dollars grading MS-65 FBL (ICG):** ☆ 1949 ☆ 1951-D ☆ 1951-S ☆ 1953-D. Each with lustrous and attractive surfaces. (Total: 4 pieces)
- 617 Quartette of half dollars MS-65 FBL (PCGS): ☆ 1950. Mottled reddish gold and sea green toning on the obverse, the reverse is lustrous ☆ 1955. Deep pearl gray toning on the obverse with mottled golden and gray on the reverse ☆ 1958. Mottled gold and magenta toning on the obverse with soft pearl gray iridescence on the reverse ☆ 1960. Lustrous with a splashes of golden toning. (Total: 4 pieces)
- 618 Trio of half dollars grading MS-65 FBL (PCGS): ☆ 1951 ☆ 1954 ☆ 1958-D. Each is brilliant and lustrous. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 619 Trio of half dollars grading MS-65 FBL (PCGS): ☆ 1951. Brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1954-D. Lustrous soft golden surfaces ☆ 1959. Brilliant and lustrous. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 620 Pair of half dollars certified by ICG: ☆ 1951-D MS-65 FBL. Lustrous with a whisper of golden toning on both surfaces ☆ 1953-S MS-66. Lustrous with splashes of blue-green and gold at the peripheries. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 621 Pair of half dollars grading MS-65 FBL (ICG): ☆ 1952. Lustrous with mottled gold, olive, and magenta toning on the obverse, the reverse with a hint of rose ☆ 1960. Brilliant and lustrous. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 622 Trio of half dollars grading MS-65 FBL (PCGS): ☆ 1952. Lustrous with a whisper of toning on the obverse field ☆ 1954-D. Lustrous with a splash of delicate toning on the reverse ☆ 1959. Soft lustrous golden toning. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 623 Quartette of certified half dollars: ☆ 1953-S MS-66 (ICG). Soft pearl gray with splashes of golden toning on the obverse, the reverse is lustrous with reddish gold and sea green at the rim ☆ 1954 MS-64 FBL (PCGS). Brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1960 MS-64 FBL (PCGS). Brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1961 MS-65 (PCGS). Brilliant and lustrous. (Total: 4 pieces)
- 624 Grouping of certified half dollars: ☆ 1954 MS-64 FBL (PCGS). Lustrous with splashes of pale gold ☆ 1960 MS-64 FBL (PCGS). Brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1961-D MS-65 (PCGS). Brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1962 MS-64 Deep golden gray toning on both surfaces ☆ 1962-D MS-65 (NGC). Brilliant lustrous ☆ 1982 B-5323. MS-64 (ANACS). Golden gray surfaces. (Total: 6 pieces)

Dollars *Various*

- 625 **Selection of dollar types:** ☆ 1798 BB-124, B-24. Heraldic Eagle. Pointed 9. VF-35. Soft golden gray surfaces ☆ 1885-O Morgan. MS-64. Brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1925 Peace. AU-58. Brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1971-S Eisenhower. 40% silver. Proof-65. Reflective with lightly frosted devices, toning spot noted on the obverse ☆ 1976 Bicentennial Eisenhower. 40% silver. Proof-65. Reflective with splashes of faint iridescent frost in the fields ☆ 1979-S Susan B. Anthony. Proof-67. Reflective with soft golden frost on the devices ☆ 1876-S trade dollar. Type 1 / 1. AU-55. Soft golden surfaces. (Total: 8 pieces)
- 626 Trio of dollars: ☆ 1769-MF pillar dollar. Mexico City Mint. VF-30 ☆ 1859-O Liberty Seated dollar. VF-20 ☆ 1877-S trade dollar. AU-55. Another nice serving of *dollars various*. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 627 **Quartette of gold coins:** ☆ 1853 gold dollar. AU-53. Subdued yellow surfaces ☆ 1853 quarter eagle. AU-55. Lustrous ☆ 1880 half eagle. AU-58. Lustrous with rose toning on both surfaces ☆ 1912 half eagle. AU-58. Yellow surfaces. (Total: 5 pieces)
- 628 **Grouping of gold coins:** ☆ 1853 gold dollar. EF-40 ☆ 1856 gold dollar. Upright 5. EF-40 ☆ 1878-S half eagle. EF-40 ☆ 1894-O half eagle. EF-45. Scarce ☆ 1906-D half eagle. MS-61 ☆ 1911 half eagle. EF-45. Each is lustrous with a few having light toning. (Total: 6 pieces)
- 629 **Half dozen gold coins of various denominations:** ☆ 1851 Type II gold dollar. Net VF-25; sharpness of EF-40. Light rim file ☆ 1900 half eagle. AU-58. Brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1911 half eagle. F-15. Deep yellow surfaces ☆ 1882 eagle. AU-53. Whisper of olive-green frost at the peripheries ☆ 1914-S eagle. EF-45. Soft golden rose ☆ 1890 double eagle. EF-45. Yellow surfaces. (Total: 6 pieces)

- 630 **Trio of gold coins:** ☆ 1874 gold dollar, MS-60 ☆ 1855 quarter eagle, AU-55 ☆ 1929 quarter eagle, MS-60. Each having lustrous yellow surfaces. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 631 **Octette of gold coins** all with minor problems: ☆ 1853 quarter eagle, Net VF-30 ☆ 1928 quarter eagle, Net AU-50 ☆ 1886-S half eagle, Net AU-50 ☆ 1901 half eagle, Net EF-40 ☆ 1907 half eagle, Net AU-50 ☆ 1907-D half eagle, Net EF-45 ☆ 1908 Liberty half eagle, (2). Net AU-58, Net AU-50. All are finer for sharpness but, have been cleaned at one time. (Total: 8 pieces)
- 632 **Quartette of gold coins:** ☆ 1861 quarter eagle, MS-60. Satiny golden rose surfaces ☆ 1929 quarter eagle, MS-61. Lustrous ☆ 1881 half eagle, MS-61. Lustrous yellow surfaces ☆ 1924 double eagle, MS-62. Brilliant and lustrous. (Total: 4 pieces)
- 633 **Quartette of gold coins:** ☆ 1907 quarter eagle, AU-55. Yellow surfaces with traces of verdigris visible at the devices ☆ 1928 quarter eagle, MS-60. Lustrous ☆ 1881 half eagle, AU-55. Lustrous ☆ 1932 eagle, AU-58. Soft golden rose surfaces. (Total: 4 pieces)
- 634 **Quartette of gold coins grading EF-40:** ☆ 1911 quarter eagle ☆ 1880-S half eagle ☆ 1908 half eagle ☆ 1912 half eagle. (Total: 4 pieces)
- 635 **Trio of Indian Head gold:** ☆ 1928 quarter eagle, AU-50. Lustrous ☆ 1911 half eagle, EF-40. Splashes of pale lavender on both surfaces ☆ 1916-S eagle, EF-40. Reddish gold at the devices. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 636 **Trio of certified gold coins:** ☆ 1905 eagle, MS-61 (PCGS). Subdued yellow surfaces ☆ 1932 eagle, AU-58 (PCI). Lustrous ☆ 1904 double eagle, MS-63 (PCGS). Satiny golden rose surfaces. (Total: 3 pieces)

END OF SESSION

SESSION TWO

Monday Evening, May 21, 6:00 PM Sharp

Betts Medals: Lots 1001-1127

Indian Peace Medals: Lots 1128-1132

Colonial and U.S. Coins: Lots 1133-1539

THE LARIVIERE COLLECTION

Welcome to the final offering of medals from the remarkable cabinet of Lucien M. LaRiviere. If Lucien had collected only Washingtonia, his name would be remembered. If the amazing selection of Indian Peace medals and Betts medals we offered from Lucien's collection in March 2001 was the only catalogue to bear his name, Lucien's place in numismatic lore would be secure forever after. Now, we are honored to offer the third and final selection of Lucien's medals that should place the LaRiviere name in heady company as a collection of legendary proportions.

The Betts series, first collated by C. Wyllys Betts before his death in 1887 and published as *American Colonial History as Illustrated by Contemporary Medals* in 1894, is perhaps one of the most intimidating collecting areas of all numismatics. It spans four centuries, three continents, and seven languages; none of this kept Lucien from collecting the entire gamut of the series from Betts-1 to Betts-621. As if to act as bookends, both of these pieces appear in the present sale, which focuses on pieces from the earliest days of European colonization of the New World and pieces from the era of the American Revolution. These medals show the American colonies on four legs and on three, as they were first created and as they prepared to break away into a new independent nation. The student of history will find the contrasts and similarities fascinating.

The session begins with Betts-1, the first medal to accord a European monarch dominion over "the new western world." Europe had just begun to sink its teeth into the New World as these earliest medals were struck (or cast as the case may sometimes be)—Columbus' first journey was still in memory for many. Spain, the Netherlands, and Portugal battled over North and South America, and they struck medals to commemorate victories both armed and argentiferous, and in many cases the victories were both at once. The Dutch victories in Brazil, the salvages of William Phipps, and the victories of Piet Heyn are remembered here. Medals commemorate both the defeat and trafficking of transplanted Africans; they recall Vigo and Lima. For those who thought the important colonies of America all became states, prepare to be enlightened.

To those who place primary importance on the states that would unite to throw off colonial rule (and how!), we have set

a place for you at a meal of impressive variety and impeccable quality. Like any native New Englander, Lucien felt a bond to the period of the American Revolution and the dozens of medals he purchased relating to it are a remarkable monument to his affections. His collection of medals from the Comitia Americana series, authorized by the American Congress and completed with the dutiful guardianship of Thomas Jefferson, is the centerpiece: included are original strikings of rarities like DeFleury at Stony Point, Nathaniel Greene at Eutaw Springs, Morgan at Cowpens in silver, and other issues in excellent states of preservation. The only British war medal for the American Revolution, struck to commemorate the 40th Regiment of Foot's stand at Germantown, is represented in two metals, and medals featuring the beloved Franklin are present in quantity. Medals commemorating the end of the war and the new nation, are striking in their contrast, from crude medals in pewter to the archetypal American medal—the famed and beautiful Libertas Americana by Dupre in both copper and silver.

We hope you enjoy this offering. If you are captivated and fascinated by the rich history presented in medallic form herein even a tenth as much as Lucien LaRiviere, you are about to embark on a most enriching journey through American colonial history. While much is written, much is left for you to discover. Consider this finalé of the LaRiviere Collection not an end but a beginning to your appreciation of a very special part of numismatics.

What follows is the text of a letter written by Colonel David Humphreys to Matthew Carey, publisher of the *American Museum* magazine in 1786. Humphreys was the primary force behind the execution of the Comitia Americana medals in Paris in the early 1780s. The letter eloquently describes the attraction and historic nature of the medals in this series, and is included herein for your interest.



David Humphreys

To the Printer of American Museum:

SIR,—I understand that a part, if not all, of the medals, which, in the course of the late war, were voted by Congress, to officers of distinguished merit, and for the execution of which I contracted with

artists at Paris, have lately arrived in America. But not having seen any account published of the devices and inscriptions, I presume it will not be ungrateful to the public to receive some authentic information respecting these memorials of national glory. However superfluous the publication of the correspondence on this subject, with the Perpetual Secretary of the Royal Academy of Inscriptions and Belles Lettres, might be deemed—it will not, I conceive, be improper it should be known that this learned Society, to whom a reference was made, entered on the discussion with the same alacrity as if the subject had been designed to illustrate the actions of their compatriots, or to immortalize some glorious events in the annals of their own nation. You will be at liberty to insert in your Museum the result of their deliberations.

In our free republics, certainly, nothing should be suppressed that can tend to awaken a noble spirit of emulation, to cherish the fine feelings of patriotism, to exhibit alluring examples for imitation, or to extend and perpetuate the remembrance of those heroic achievements which have ennobled the era of the American revolution. Few inventions could be more happily calculated to diffuse the knowledge

and preserve the memory of illustrious characters and splendid events, than medals—whether we take into consideration the unperishable nature of the substance from whence they are formed, the facility of multiplying copies, or the practice of depositing them in the cabinets of the curious. Perhaps one improvement might be made. The sage and venerable Dr. Franklin, whose patriotic genius is active in old age, and ever prolific in projects of public utility, once suggested, in conversation with me, as an expedient for propagating still more extensively the knowledge of facts designed to be perpetuated in medals, that their devices should be impressed on the current coin of the nation.

Under the influence of such ideas, I shall claim the indulgence of my countrymen for bringing forward a communication which might possibly have come more satisfactorily from some other quarter. An apprehension that the subject might remain unnoticed, is my apology.

I am, sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,

David Humphreys.

Mount Vernon, November, 1787.

NUMISMATIC AMERICANA

Rare and Important Betts-1



- 1001 Betts-1. 1556 Treaty of Vaucelles. Cast silver. Extremely Fine.** Plain edge. Lovely pewter gray and olive mingle with some lustre adhering to protected areas of legends and devices. Chased or re-engraved at the time of casting to improve detail, as are all of this issue and most cast medals of the period. Excellent eye appeal and ancient toning. This first medal described by C. Wylls Betts features the new King of Spain, Philip II, and his father, Holy Roman Emperor Charles V, with the titles they assumed just prior to the signing of the Treaty of Vaucelles with France on February 5, 1556.

Charles V, the grandson of Columbus' patrons Ferdinand and Isabella, gave the crown of Spain to his son Philip on January 16, 1556. Philip had previously attempted to bring about peace with France and the papacy by his marriage to Queen Mary of England, but upon the failure of that union he was left with truce as the only option to bring peace to this conflict which had raged since 1552. During the war with France the French had invaded Puerto Rico and Cuba and the Spaniards had maneuvered in the French territory of Newfoundland and its Grand Banks. By the peace of Vaucelles, France could only trade with the Spanish possessions in the Caribbean by permission of the crown; this peace was short-lived. This medal was issued around the time of this peace, when Charles claimed only the throne of the Holy Roman Empire and Philip proclaimed himself "King of Spain and the New Western World." This rare medal, among the first numismatic items related to the New World, is of the highest historical importance and is a remarkable memorial of this earliest era of settlement of North America.

Weight: 203.1 grains. Diameter: 34.7 mm.

From Sotheby's sale of June 1976, Lot 493.



- 1002 Betts-3. 1559 Peace of Cambrai. Gilt silver. Extremely Fine.** Plain edge. Light gold with glossy surfaces. Excellent eye appeal with no breaks in the gilding. A few pits above head as cast. A dig in O of NOVI will serve to identify this specimen, and some light scratches in the fields are noted for accuracy.

This medal was struck to celebrate the peace of Cateau-Cambrésis on April 3, 1559, which gave Spain a dominant position in Italy and furthered the conflict between Spain and France for trading rights in the Indies.

While not of direct relevance to America in its written form, Frances Gardiner Davenport's collection entitled *European Treaties Bearing on the History of the United States and Its Dependencies* states "an oral agreement was made, apparently to the effect that west of the prime meridian and south of the Tropic of Cancer might should make right, and violence done by either party to the other should not be regarded as contravention of treaties." A rare medal, unlisted by Betts in gilt form, and very infrequently offered stateside.

Weight: 286.2 grains. Diameter: 38.5 mm.

Purchased from Spink & Son on November 26, 1982.



- 1003 Betts-8. 1570 Marriage of Philip II. Gilt silver. Very Fine or better.** Plain edge. Pale yellow and ruddy gray with gilding worn thin on the highest points of the design. Vestiges of a mount still present at 12:00 which is neither offensive nor dis-

ruptive of the legends or design. A delightful specimen of this medal struck to commemorate the fourth marriage of King Philip II of Spain, to his niece Archduchess Anne of Austria. Like Betts-1, the obverse titulature celebrates Philip as "King of Spain and the New Western World"; he has aged little since the 1556 emission of that medal. A well-executed medal from the Age of Exploration.

Weight: 273.6 grains. Diameter: 38.1 mm.

By 1570, the Spanish had made serious inroads into what is today the United States, less than 100 years after the first voyage of Columbus. Capitalizing on the 1513 discovery of Florida by Juan Ponce de León, a permanent settlement was established in 1565 at St. Augustine by Pedro Menéndez de Avilés. Soon thereafter, Menéndez captured and decimated the French at Fort Caroline, established in 1562 near Tampa Bay, and renamed it San Mateo. The Spaniards had also by this point seen the Grand Canyon during the travels of Coronado in the 1540s, explored the islands and coast from San Diego to Santa Barbara in Southern California under Cabrillo, and seen Lake Michigan under DeSoto. Settlements had been made as far north as Virginia on the Atlantic coast, in fact, a month before this medal was issued a group of Spanish Jesuits had undertaken a mission among the Powhatan Indians in Virginia. The entire party was killed by the Indians in February 1571.

From Sotheby's sale of June 1976, Lot 550.

Beautiful 1581 Betts-12

Commemorating the Defense of the
West Indian Trade Against Piracy



1004 Betts-12. 1581 West Indies Commerce. Copper. Choice Very Fine. Plain edge. Glossy light brown with smooth surfaces. Tiny rim nick at 5:00 on obverse invisible from either side, but mentioned for accuracy. Excellent eye appeal. Betts lists this medal only in silver, but this specimen is unquestionably a copper alloy with a specific gravity of 8.78.

This is perhaps one of the most interesting medals of the "period of colonization" and one that was misunderstood by Betts. In his description of this variety, Betts translates the reverse legend RELUQUUM DATURA INDIA as "India about to give the remainder" and interprets the camelid on the reverse as a camel, whereas it is most certainly the llama, then and now a common animal in Peru much used for its wool and milk. The translation of legend may perhaps be better rendered from the Latin as "The Indies are about to give the rest," quite probably a reference to Philip's attempts in 1581 to set up a naval defense to protect West Indian commerce from piracy of the kind perpetrated by Sir Francis Drake that would draw Spain and England to blows within the decade. The legend refers to the ability of Spain to now exploit all of the riches of the Indies, rather than just the fraction which they were previously able to transport to Spain without theft on the high seas.

Those involved with the West Indian trade had asked Philip II for years for

some sort of defense to protect them from piracy. In 1581, the Crown finally agreed to protect the commercial traffic and "condescend to your supplication and send you a galley and a frigate already manned, with the necessary crews, weapons and ordinance. So you may appreciate the desire we have, as we have stated, to show you our favor." The Casa de la Contratacion or House of Trade for the Indies, a regulatory body established by the Crown, had recommended the defensive ships as necessary to the success of New World trade. This medal commemorates the new defenses and the greater trade with the Indies it would allow for Spain. It is of remarkable historic importance, relating to the struggles that acted as prelude to the famed battle between England and the Spanish Armada in 1588 and to the age of pirates so avidly romanticized by modern historians and storytellers alike.

Weight: 261.9 grains. Diameter: 38.3 mm.

Purchased from Kurt Spanier on July 30, 1993. Previously from Spink's Sale 67, November 1988, Lot 569.

1005 Betts-16. 1594 American Commerce. Silver. Extremely Fine. Plain edge. Lustrous silver gray with lovely iridescent highlights of violet, blue, and gold. Extraordinarily attractive and choice, with only a tiny rim flaw at 12:00 on obverse, perhaps the vestige of an ancient mount.

Betts dates this 1596 and notes he takes the date from Van Loon; he most likely never saw the medal in person, as the date 1594 is seen clearly below the obverse exergue. According to Betts this Dutch medal (and the one which follows) commemorates "the flourishing commerce that began in 1696 [sic, should be 1596] by reason of prizes offered by the State for discovery of a route to China. The vessels of Holland visited Brazil, and returned with wood; and the Island of St. Thomas, returning with cargoes of sugar." The medal depicts Neptune on a sea monster with the names of several leading Dutch trading cities on the reverse. It was struck contemporaneously with the precipitous rise in the power of Dutch traders in both East and West Indies, filling the vacuum created by the defeat of the Spanish. As such, it is an important medallion memorial to the very beginnings of the movement that would carry the Dutch into New Amsterdam, Brazil, and the Arctic in the half century that would follow.

Weight: 441.5 grains. Diameter: 51.5 mm

From Jacques Schulman's sale of November 1971, Lot 615.



A Spanish galleon from the period of colonization. From Thomas Sebring's book *Treasure Tales: Shipwrecks and Salvage*.



1006 Betts-17. 1596 American Commerce. Copper. Choice Very Fine. Plain edge. Glossy medium chocolate brown with smooth surfaces. Visually pleasing with no problems worthy of note.

Similar in design and texture to the Dutch and French jetons of the 16th and 17th centuries, this piece features a phenomenally interesting juxtaposition of design and legends. The obverse design features a man on a sea monster with ARION above and the legend NUNC SPE NUNC METU, which Betts translates as "Now filled with hope, and now with fear." Arion was a musician in Corinth ca. 6th century BC who competed in a musical competition, about which he said to his patron Periander, the tyrant of Corinth, "he who strives to win may lose" before his perilous voyage to Sicily, accomplished on the back of a dolphin according to myth. This voyage and yearning for victory is used as an analogy for the victory over the Spanish in the battle for dominance of world trade, including that in the West Indies.

The reverse legend LUCTOR ET EMERGO, which Betts translates as "I strive and emerge," may perhaps better be translated as "I strive and rise up" in reference to surpassing the pessimistic vision of Arion. The editors of Betts, William T.R. Marvin and Lyman Low, discuss this fabulous reference, saying "the signification seems to be that as Arion was carried to the shore by a dolphin, after his companions had thrown him into the sea, so the Dutch voyagers might hope, in spite of their fears, for equal good fortune." Instead of the language of hope, this medal seems actually to use the language of victory.

A very interesting Betts medal, issued a quarter century before the founding of the Dutch West Indies Company, whose combination of rarity and visual appeal should tempt anyone interested in the earliest days of Dutch trade in the New World.

Weight: 91.3 grains. Diameter: 29.3 mm.

From our sale of the Saccone Collection, November 1989, Lot 3076.

Extremely Rare 1599 Betts-19

The Capture of St. Thomas



1007 Betts-19. 1599 Capture of St. Thomas. Silver. Extremely Fine. Plain edge. Pewter gray with lustrous olive and pale gold highlights. Marvelous natural toning and superb eye appeal. A few minor peripheral planchet flaws near edge and a small planchet depression in left obverse field will identify this specimen in the future.

One of the most attractive and artistic designs of the period, accomplished and signed by Christian Maler of Nuremberg. This medal is the earliest work of Maler cited by Leonard Forrer. Maler was commissioned to create this medal by Maurice, Prince of Orange, to celebrate the expedition of Admiral Van der Does in 1599. Continuing the plunder of the now waning Spanish empire, Van der Does captured the Canary Islands and destroyed the city of Las Palmas on Grand Canary before setting his sights on Spanish possessions in the West Indies. He sailed for St. Thomas, now part of the US Virgin Islands but discovered by Columbus on his second voyage in 1493. He captured the largest settlement on the island, Pavoasan, now called Charlotte Amalie, and left with laden ships before he and a large number of his troops died from disease. The Dutch never did much with their new tropical possession, except for a brief settlement ca. 1657, and the upstart Danes took control in the latter half of the 17th century. This medal lives on as a testament in the finest style to the fortune that smiled on the Dutch during the capture. One of the scarcest medals in the Caribbean sub-series of Betts, here represented by a truly exceptional specimen.

Weight: 182.2 grains. Diameter: 32.9 mm.

Purchased from Spink & Son on September 9, 1994. Previously from Sotheby's sale of July 1994, Lot 135.

Very Rare 1602 Betts-21

The Capture of the *St. Jago* by the Dutch

1008 Betts-21. 1602 Capture of *St. Jago*. Silver. Choice Extremely Fine. Plain edge. Pewter gray with exquisite natural pale blue and violet iridescence. A beautiful specimen with only the most superficial scratches seen under magnification. This evocative medal, whose design is reminiscent of the Dutch daalders of the period, features two Dutch galleons magnificently rendered and surrounding the Spanish vessel *St. Jago*, which was driven ashore and defeated at St. Helena in the South Atlantic. The reverse depicts a horse leaping, indicative of Philip II of Spain, chased by the lion rampant of Zeeland. The legend NON SUFFICIT ORBIS or "One world is not enough" excellently summarizes the close competition between Holland and Spain for control of lands and trade in the New World in the period or, as Betts more subtly puts it, "intimates the persistent rivalry of Holland and Spain in the New World." This medal, while rare and important, is perhaps most notable for its beautifully executed yet simple designs. A marvelous relic of the age of the galleon.

Weight: 700.9 grains. Diameter: 51.3 mm.

It is interesting to note that NON SUFFICIT ORBIS is the family motto of the Scottish Bond family, and was borrowed by author Ian Fleming as a title for the James Bond novel and film *The World Is Not Enough*.

From Sotheby's sale of October 1995, Lot 1423.



Rare 1624 Dutch Naval Victories Medal

From the Duke of Northumberland Collection



1009 Betts-22. 1624 Dutch Naval Victories. Gilt silver. Extremely Fine. Plain edge with suspension loop broken off edge at 12:00 on obverse. Light yellow gold with no breaks in the gilding apparent except for the very tip of the nose of Prince Maurice. Short nub of suspension mount still present on rim. A very appealing specimen of this extremely rare medal, struck to commemorate naval actions by the now-powerful Dutch fleet on both coasts of South America. Admiral Jacobo L'Hermite and his 11 ships were active along the Pacific coast off Peru and Chile; a ship in his fleet gave Cape Horn at the tip of South America its name after the city of Hoorn in the Netherlands.

Contemporaneously, Admiral Jacob Willekens led a fleet of 26 ships, under the flag of the nascent West India Company, to capture the Portuguese stronghold of Salvador de Bahia in Brazil. They arrived on May 8, 1624 and took the town on May 10; when 52 Portuguese ships arrived less than a year later, the Dutch left as quietly as possible. This medal celebrates the important victory though, not the defeat that followed on its heels, as one of the first important feats of the West Indies Company which would colonize Fort Oranje at Albany, New York, the same year and later the sugar colony of Pernambuco in Brazil. The reverse legend JE MAINTIENDRAY or "I will maintain" illustrates the hope the United Netherlands could keep an empire together where Spain had fallen; the ignominious exit of the Dutch from Brazil almost precisely 30 years later in 1654 would show this as folly. While in their glory, the

Netherlands struck this extraordinary medal now offered, a rarity in the series and absent from most advanced collections.

Weight: 1140.7 grains. Diameter: 68.5 mm.

The Duke of Northumberland collection, as noted in our March 2001 offering of the first segment of the LaRiviere collection of Betts medals collection, "reposed at Ahwick Castle, the second largest castle in England after Windsor Castle, and the ancestral home of the Percys since 1309. It is located 40 miles north of Newcastle-upon-Tyne and is a popular destination for tourists and film producers, who have used it as a location for *Robin Hood Prince of Thieves* and the television show *Blackadder*. The first Duke of Northumberland, who undertook a comprehensive renovation of the castle in 1750, is well known in another numismatic connection. In 1763, upon his appointment as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, a special issue of shillings was coined for distribution by him, now a key issue for collectors of the coins of George III." The present medal may have been added to the collection by that first Duke of Northumberland. If so, the medal was already over 100 years old at the time.

An interesting side note: The pirates that L'Hermite and Willekens faced around South America were known as "filibusteros," a local corruption of "freebooters" and the etymological origin of the modern word "filibuster," a pirate-like takeover of a legislative body.

From Sotheby's sale of the Duke of Northumberland collection, December 1980, Lot 410.

Exceptional 1628 Treasure of Matanzas Medal

Betts-23



1010 Betts-23. 1628 Treasure of Matanzas. Silver. Choice Extremely Fine. Plain edge. Lustrous silver gray with hints of pale pink and gold iridescence. Superb eye appeal and even strike. Tiny rim bumps at 1:00 on obverse and 9:00 and 11:00 on reverse, none of which affect the peripheral legends in the least. This extraordinary medal depicts the Western Hemisphere in typical mid-17th century form with an encircling leg-

end from the Book of Jeremiah on the obverse, while the reverse shows a spectacular scene of the meeting of the Dutch and Spanish fleets with the legend translating, "On September 8, 1628, the West India Company, under the auspices of the United Provinces of the Netherlands and under the command of Peter Heyn, the son of Peter, captured near Matanzas, a bay of the Island of Cuba, the royal silver fleet of the Kingdom of New Spain." The peripheral reverse legend is also from the Book of Jeremiah.

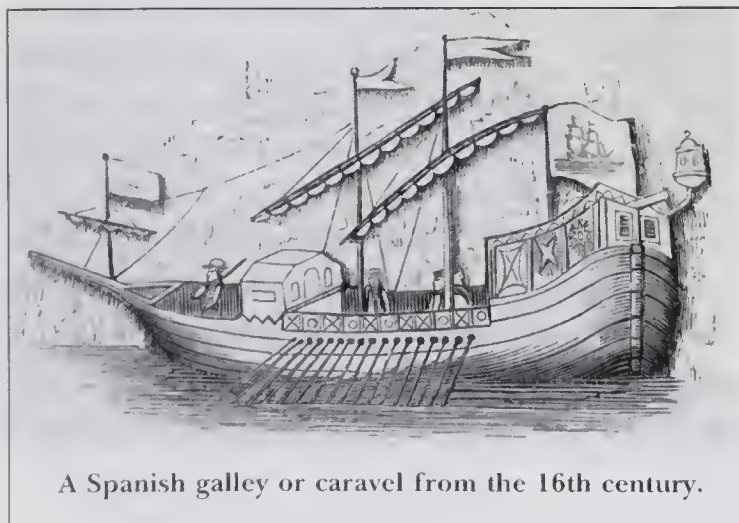
Matanzas is an important inlet and natural harbor east of Havana and due south of Sugarloaf Key on the north shore of Cuba. In September 1628, Peter (also rendered Piet) Heyn of the Dutch West India Company waited near Matanzas with 31 armed privateers, essentially legally sanctioned pirates. The Spanish treasure fleet or Flota de la Plata was moored at Havana taking on a massive load of silver from the Mexican mines, the prize which Heyn and the Dutchmen sought. After leaving the harbor at Havana, the Spaniards realized the Dutch ships lay in wait for them and attempted to evade them by entering the Bay of Matanzas. In fact, they had just trapped themselves and would soon surrender the entire fleet and its treasure to the Dutch West India Company. Heyn captured 12 million guilders worth of silver; the Matanzas medals like this one, to quote John W. Adams in his *ANA Anthology* essay "Back to Medal Collecting," were "undoubtedly made from a portion of the spoils." The remarkable competition between the Spanish and Dutch during this period is essentialized by this medal, a celebratory piece struck from silver mined by the Spanish then stolen from the belly of their ships by the Dutch.

Weight: 1097.6 grains. Diameter: 63.7 mm.

The map on this medal's obverse is a very interesting one, depicting an exaggerated Caribbean and California as an island. The design undoubtedly took inspiration from Ortelius, a Dutchman whose *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum* was first published in 1570 and remained the standard world atlas for a half century thereafter. Interestingly, Ortelius did not depict California as an island but as a peninsula; island depictions of the area would not become commonplace until the middle of the 1600s and dominant until later in the century. This medal, struck at the world center of mapmaking at the time, was ahead of the curve on that "modern" (but obviously incorrect) depiction of California. The Amazon and St. Lawrence are well-detailed, based upon then-recent explorations of both rivers.

The 12 million guilders taken from the Spanish at Matanzas is a very impressive figure. According to Tom Sebring's memorable book *Treasure Tales: Shipwrecks and Salvage*, Dutch seamen at the time earned only 10 guilders a month.

From Jacques Schulman's sale of November 1971, Lot 625.



A Spanish galley or caravel from the 16th century.

Remarkable 1629 Betts-24

"Struck From the Captured Silver"



1011 Betts-24. 1629 Treasure of Matanzas. Silver. Extremely Fine.

Plain edge. Silver gray with light surface iridescence and pleasing vestiges of lustre. Excellent eye appeal with none of the typical rim bumps, though we note a tiny depression near the topmost mast for future identification of this specimen. Belonging to the same class as the previous medal, this Matanzas commemorative rivals any of the series for artistic mastery with an impressive rendering of the capture on the obverse and an exclusively epigraphic reverse.

Betts translates the obverse legend as "the Spaniard is not so strong with the sword as with gold: take away the gold, the Iberian will no longer win with the sword," and the reverse as "the fleet of the Indies being cut off, and very rich booty taken without bloodshed, at the Bay of Cuba, now more celebrated by the loss of the Spaniards than formerly by their defeat, the chiefs of the United Provinces of the Netherlands have caused this medal to be struck from the captured silver. 1629. With privilege." An important piece, likely the rarest of the entire Matanzas series.

Weight: 1360.3 grains. Diameter: 58.8 mm.

This piece is quite apparently triple struck, undoubtedly a necessary evil to raise this much detail with what coining techniques were available at the time. That this piece was so finely struck "with privilege" indicates it was probably a semiofficial or official issue of the Dutch government. While it is unknown just who the "chiefs of the United provinces of the Netherlands" were who "caused this medal to be struck," we may assume them to be intimately connected to the government and able to use both the captured silver and coining equipment of the government. The word that Betts translates as "chiefs" is the Latin *NOBILIOREM*, which may also be translated as "high-born" or "well-known."

Purchased from George Fuld on January 20, 1975.

Superb 1629 Peter Heyn Medal

Betts-26



Piet Heyn and the Spanish Fleet Treasure

by Thomas Sebring

The Spanish treasure fleets, pursued aggressively by British and Dutch warships during the incessant European wars, almost always slipped by their ambushers. Only once was an entire Spanish treasure fleet captured, which made the key figure in that adventure a national hero in his native land.

Heyn and the Spaniards

Pieter Pieterszoon Heyn was born in the Netherlands in 1577. His seafaring career started early when he joined his father, a Dutch sea captain, on his ship. In 1592, Heyn and his father were captured by the Spanish and spent four years as galley slaves working the long sweeps amid incredible filth and stench. Released in a prisoner exchange, they were captured again by the Spanish in 1598 and sentenced to life in the galleys. Four more brutal years followed before they were again released. After one short year of freedom, Heyn was seized by the Spanish while on a trading voyage in the Caribbean. Heyn's iron constitution enabled him to survive this third arduous and brutalizing experience; this time he was freed after a year.

During his imprisonment, Heyn learned a great deal about the warships of the Spanish ships of the Spanish flotas and their shipping techniques, knowledge which was to prove very valuable to him later. Heyn nursed an implacable hatred for the Spanish for the rest of his life, and in later years he was to repay them ten times over for the nine brutal, soul-searing years he spent as a galley slave.

In 1607, Heyn sailed as first mate on a Dutch East India vessel. During subsequent years with the Company, he established himself as an extremely competent sea captain with outstanding leadership characteristics. He was assigned steadily increasing responsibilities, and his harassment of the Spanish and Portuguese in the New World and the East Indies made him a hero in his homeland.

The Loss of the *Hollandia*

In March, 1626, Heyn was put in charge of a Dutch fleet with orders to capture the annual Spanish treasure fleet. He set sail with 15 ships and 1,675 men, planning to join with another Dutch fleet in the Caribbean and waylay the Spanish vessels. Heyn was known as a very religious individual and strict disciplinarian. Missing religious services more than once on his ship resulted in a severe flogging for the culprit. Gambling was forbidden, punishable by being clapped in irons. In spite of his strict rules and iron discipline, Heyn was loved and respected by his men.

During the initial phase of the 1626 expedition, Heyn was unable to join forces with the second Dutch fleet; he therefore did not have a force large enough to attack the Spanish. Determined to achieve some success in spite of this problem, Heyn followed his secondary orders to harass Spanish and Portuguese shipping off the coast of Brazil. Reaching the coast of Brazil in early March 1627, Heyn's fleet sailed to the Bay of All Saints to attack the Portuguese and Spanish ships there. After a fierce battle, Heyn's flagship, the *Hollandia*, took tremendous damage from the Portuguese guns on shore. Five hundred cannon balls pierced the ship, but Heyn, his ship sinking beneath him, was able to escape, bleeding profusely from two serious wounds. The Dutch had captured more than two million guilders in gold and silver during this adventure, and when Heyn returned to Holland in July 1627, he was acclaimed a hero.

Heyn's flagship, the *Hollandia*, was salvaged in 1981, by Robert Marx, the famous treasure hunter and marine archaeologist. In addition to many silver coins, items recovered included cannon and cannon balls, pistols, swords, pewter, and even a gin bottle complete with its original contents.

The Capture of the Treasure Fleet

The Spanish treasure fleet of 1628 was under the command of Captain General Don Juan de Benevides. As was frequently the case in Spanish naval commands, his was a political appointment. Benevides's sister was a lady-in-waiting to the queen and reportedly one of the King's mistresses. This connection accounted for the appointment of Benevides over more qualified individuals. His marine career to that point had been notably undistinguished, and his performance in this, his final assignment, was to cost the Spanish millions and Benevides his head.

The Spanish crown was in dire need of the 1628 treasure shipment, being, as always, deeply in debt; with 140,000 Spanish soldiers fighting in various campaigns across the continent of Europe, Spain required increasing sums from its omiposits in America



Above: A contemporary portrait of Piet Heyn. Below: Heyn's capture of the Spanish fleet at Matanzas. From Thomas Sebring's book *Treasure Tales: Shipwrecks and Salvage*.

1012 Betts-26. 1629 Peter Heyn at Matanzas. Silver. Choice Extremely Fine. Plain edge. Lustrous silver gray with beautiful light blue highlights on reflective surfaces. A few minuscule rim nicks and a shallow dig on Heyn's nose could easily not be mentioned. Triple struck to bring up full detail. In short, this is a splendid specimen of this most popular Matanzas medal, with the fleet's captain Peter Heyn resplendent on the obverse in his ruff and what Betts understatedly calls "ornate armor." The reverse masterfully represents the taking of the Flota de la Plata at Matanzas with the legend HEYNAD NUP SENSIT SPOLIATA MATANCA or "Pillaged Matanzas has lately felt the power of the nation of Heyn." Heyn was lauded as a hero on the magnitude of Admiral Vernon a century later, though before mass produced medals for a consumer market, few numismatic memorials would be made to him. This remarkable portrait medal is quite rare and always in demand by enthusiasts of New World history and the treasure fleets of the Caribbean.

Weight: 1236.5 grains. Diameter: 60.1 mm.

Thomas Sebring's interesting work called *Treasure Tales: Shipwrecks and Salvage*, which we have cited previously, is the best single volume work from a numismatist's perspective on the topic of shipwrecks and captured treasure. We reproduce here his telling of the story of Piet Heyn and his capture of the treasure at Matanzas, the event commemorated by Betts 23 through 29.

Upon arriving in the New World in late 1627, Benevides spent more time attending to the sale of his own contraband cargo than in organizing and preparing the treasure fleet for a speedy return to Spain. As a result, the fleet was considerably delayed in its assembly in Havana.

Heyn's successful expedition to Brazil had inspired the directors of the Dutch West India Company to make another attempt to capture the Spanish treasure fleet. Piet Heyn was obviously the man to lead this expedition. Because of his reputation as a strict but fair captain, seamen from all over Holland flocked to sign up for this glorious adventure against the Spaniards.

Heyn sailed on May 20, 1628, with 31 ships and more than 4,000 men. His plan was to intercept the New Spain flota on its way from Vera Cruz to Havana where it was to rendezvous with the Tierra Firme treasure fleet arriving from Cartagena. His burning desire to capture the Spanish treasure fleet was intensified when he learned that the New Spain flota was commanded by Benevides, who had been captain of one of the Spanish galleys where Heyn had served as a starved, brutalized galley slave.

On September 7, 1628, Piet Heyn's fleet intercepted the dumbfounded Spanish treasure fleet in Matanza Bay, 45 miles east of Havana. The panic-stricken Spanish tried desperately to enter the Bay to unload the treasure and carry it safely ashore during the night. However, their efforts were unsuccessful, and the four galleons carrying the treasure ran aground near the mouth of the Bay. As the Dutch entered the Bay, most of the Spanish fled ashore, led by Benevides.

The Dutch quickly boarded the treasure galleons after minimal Spanish resistance. Heyn himself headed directly for the *Capitana*, hoping to capture Benevides personally. His joy at capturing the immense treasure with almost no casualties among his men was dampened by his bitter disappointment when he found that the hated Benevides had escaped. An excerpt from Heyn's letter to the Dutch authorities written on his way back to Holland describes the action:

We came first to the ship of the Spanish vice admiral in which there still was a good number of Spaniards, who at first tried to defend her. We attacked with a musket charge and boarded her, calling to them 'Buena Guerra' [Literally "Good War" or "Let's Have At It"] which caused the Spaniards to put down their muskets and go below deck. As soon as I had put things in order there, I went with the other boats to the Spanish Admiral's ship, the rear admiral's and another big ship, which had been partly boarded by the other boats. When we came to the admiral's ship, I opened a charge of musket fire and boarded her calling 'Buena Guerra,' the Spaniards laid their weapons down and went below deck. In the meantime, a Spaniard jumped overboard with the intention to swim ashore, but we took him to our boat. Then and there I asked him how many Spaniards were still aboard; he said that there were about 150, at which I told him to go back to the ship and tell the Spaniards that I promised them quarter and that I would put them immediately ashore. The said Spaniard asked me what kind of person I was; I said that I was the general of the whole fleet, at which he asked me to let one of our men accompany him so that in coming aboard he would not be killed by our people, in which I consented. The Spaniard, coming aboard his ship, told the Spaniards below deck the general was on board and promised them quarter, and that they would be put ashore immediately. At which all the Spaniards came up on deck, and I had them be put ashore immediately because I feared some confusion between them and our people and consequently some arson because it was night, and our people could not be kept in strict order because of the large amount of plunder present.

As soon as the Spaniards were ashore, I made order in all the captured ships which numbered six; no boats were allowed to go on these ships or leave them. Then I went to my own ship and thanked God Almighty for the good victory He had given us.

When Heyn and his men arrived in Holland with fifteen million guilders in treasure, they were given a tumultuous welcome. Heyn became lieutenant admiral of Holland in 1629, which meant that he was supreme commander of all Dutch naval forces, and he remains to this day a national hero.

As for Captain General Don Juan de Benevides, his reception in his homeland was of a different nature. King Philip IV was not at all pleased with the loss of the badly needed treasure shipment, and despite Benevides' attempts to shift the blame elsewhere, it was clear that his incompetence and cowardice had been largely responsible for the debacle. Frantic efforts by his sister to save his life prevailed temporarily, but upon her death several years later the disgraced nobleman was quickly beheaded.

Purchased from Dr. Patterson.

Grand 1630 Capture of Pernambuco Medal Betts-30.



1013 Betts-30. 1630 Capture of Pernambuco. Gilt silver. Extremely Fine. Plain edge. Warm reddish gold with halos of rose and deep blue iridescence around design elements. A few tiny rim marks are noted, the most serious at 6:00, and rim lightly filed at 12:00 where a mount was once attached. Well struck and very pleasing.

The first long-standing Dutch settlement in Brazil was founded at Pernambuco in 1630, following the exit of Jacob Willekens from Bahia in 1625 under pressure from the Portuguese who had controlled Brazil since 1500. The Dutch set their sights on capturing Brazil once again after that defeat, and sent their fleet of 67 ships under the command of Hendrick Corneliszoon Loncq in the summer of 1629 to capture the sugar colony at Pernambuco on the Atlantic coast. The fleet arrived in February 1630 and had taken their objective by early March. The Portuguese resisted weakly over the next few years, but the Dutch would make Pernambuco the central port for the Dutch West India Company until 1644. A series of coins for Dutch Brazil were struck at Pernambuco in 1644; these are all quite rare today.

The present medal was struck to commemorate all the Dutch victories for the year 1630, and depicts Pernambuco among four contemporary city scenes on the reverse of the medal. Besides the rare coin issues of the Dutch, the 1630 Victories medals (Betts numbers 30 and 31) are the only numismatic memorials of this important New World colony that, along with Nieuw Amsterdam in modern day New York, was the

pride of the Dutch West India Company at the time. Significant and very rare.

Weight: 978.6 grains. Diameter: 68.5 mm.

1630 was an important year for the Dutch West India Company and their presence in North America. Kiliaen Van Rensselaer, one of the company's directors, established the patroonship of Rensselaerswyck on the Hudson River in modern Albany and Rensselaer counties around the already established Ft. Oranje.

From Jacques Schulman's sale of November 1971, Lot 626.

Important 1631 Betts-33

Commemorating Colonies at Delaware,
New Jersey, and St. Maarten



1014 Betts-33. 1631 Dutch Colonial Victories. Silver. Extremely Fine. Plain edge. Unnatural silver gray still bright from an old polishing. Scattered hairlines and a tiny rim push at 12:00 on obverse noted. Excellent sharpness and nice eye appeal. The obverse depicts Prince Frederick Henry, the son of William the Silent and an important military leader in his own right. The reverse is a marvelous allegory for Dutch-Spanish competition, depicting the Dutch lion upending the Spanish Pillars of Hercules with a legend translating as "He has extended beyond the columns of Hercules, he has shattered each of them."

While not actually referring to naval victories as suggested by Betts, this medal celebrates the further settlement and expansion of the Dutch colonies beyond that of the Spanish. This includes the major inroads made by the Dutch this year in settlements in New York at Rensselaerswyck, New Jersey at Pavonia, and Delaware at Swanendae, in addition to the occupation of the island of St. Maarten in the Caribbean. St. Maarten, today a joint Dutch and French protectorate, was first claimed by Spain on Columbus' second voyage. In 1631, the Dutch West India Company claimed it as a way station between the new settlements in Brazil and New York. They erected an outpost called Fort Amsterdam and held the island until 1633 when the Spanish recaptured it, expelled the Dutch, and reestablished control of the island's salt mines. This medal has not been offered in America for generations and stands as the lone medal struck to commemorate these important Dutch settlements in what is today the United States. It is of the highest historical importance and will no doubt attract the attention of specialists in the series and those newly initiated who are captivated by the oft-forgot-

ten triumphs and failures of the Dutch in America.

Weight: 714.7 grains. Diameter: 48.9 mm.

In 1631, the Dutch established called Swanendael a small colony at Lewes in what is now Delaware. Soon after colonization, a settler began an argument with one of the local natives of the Lenape tribe over the arms of the Colony which one of the Indians had stolen. The thief was executed, and soon thereafter all 32 colonists were killed by the Indians. Pavonia at modern day Jersey City was also established by the Dutch in 1631. St. Maarten, lost to the Spanish in 1633, was the object of an attempt by the Dutch to retake the island in 1644 during which Peter Stuyvesant of New York fame would lose his leg.

The Swanendael or Zwaanendael colony is one the most interesting episodes in the whole settlement of North America. The primary founders were all investors in the Dutch West Indies Company, including Matthijs van Keulen, a principal patron of that firm from the age of 20 whose brother once owned the land on Manhattan Island from today's 85th Street to 125th Street. Van Keulen was the only survivor from that colony, having set sail for London just before the attack from the natives. In 1646, he would settle in New York at the present-day location of Columbia University on land owned by his brother.

From Spink's sale of March 1999, Lot 395. Earlier the property of "a European noble family."



1015 Betts-39. 1658 Dampville, Viceroy of America. Restrike, 1880-1898. Copper. Choice Mint State. CUIVRE on edge with cornucopia privy mark. Bright mint color barely faded in obverse fields to a pale violet and even light brown on the reverse. Beautiful lustre and visual appeal.

Little is known about the character Dampville or the origin and purpose of the original form of this medal. The *American Journal of Numismatics* as cited by Betts, adds little assistance besides analysis of Dampville's arms a brief description of the family. The title of Viceroy of America was later given to LaSalle in the 1680s, basically as an honorary title. We may perhaps rightly assume that Dampville was awarded this title for having "shewn great bravery ... in the sieges of St. Antonin, Montaubin, Montpellier, and La Rochelle" as the *A/N* notice on this medal, reprinted from the *Canadian Antiquarian and Numismatic Journal*, describes. This medal was avidly collected by those interested in Canadian medals at the end of the 19th century, incidentally the same epoch when this Paris Mint restrike was struck. Very rare even as a restrike and important to enthusiasts of the medallic issues of Nouvelle France.

Weight: 801.1 grains. Diameter: 50.3 grains

Purchased at the TOREX show on April 19, 1974.

Magnificent 1670 Colonization Medal

Extremely Rare Gold Striking



- 1016 Betts-44. 1670 Colonization. Gold. Choice Extremely Fine.** Plain edge. Rich yellow gold with heavily reflective surfaces. Fully struck and well detailed with excellent eye appeal. We note only a tiny rim nick at 1:00 on reverse and some minor hairlines. Though the Colonization medal is one of the less scarce American reference medals from this early period, specimens in gold are extremely rare. We record a specimen sold by Sotheby's in October 1976 as the only other example to appear at auction in recent memory. Typically, gold specimens were reserved only for persons in high military command or the very politically connected. This specimen was undoubtedly presented to a person of stature.

The event commemorated by this impressive medal is worthy of special note. Betts equates this medal to a marriage medal, with its jugate busts of Charles II and his bride Catherine of Braganza. The 1662 union with the Portuguese royal line, according to Betts, "gained a foothold in the East Indies and South America" for England. In actuality, the medal may commemorate an agreement with the greatest enemy of Portugal, Spain. It has been previously suggested that the medal was struck after the July 18, 1670 treaty of amity with Spain; this is almost certainly correct. This treaty guaranteed each signing nation the right to trade with their properties in America and the West Indies without harassment by the other party and the right to seek safe harbor in ports of the other nation. It forbade trade among the colonies except by special exemption, and perhaps most importantly stated that any lands of which the signing nations had current possession they "shall have, hold, and possess forever." This meant that the city of Charleston, South Carolina, which had been founded a few months before the treaty, was safe from Spanish impingement from the south; Charleston was the southernmost English settlement at the time on the mainland.

The map on the medal's reverse shows as large a portion of British settlements as possible in a hemispherical view; India is at the far right and the coast of America is at the far left with the Caribbean barely represented. The legend *DIFFVSUS IN ORBE BRITANNVS* is translated by Betts as "The Briton dispersed all over the globe." While the British possessions in the Eastern hemisphere were covered under the treaty of amity, this document undoubtedly had a much greater impact on the possessions of both England and Spain in the Caribbean and America. An important medal to the American collector, extremely rare in this metal, and a centerpiece of the next collection in which it resides.

Weight: 781.8 grains. Diameter: 41.7 mm.

From Superior's sale of June 1976, Lot 2287.

Lovely 1670 Colonization Medal

Silver



- 1017 Betts-44. 1670 Colonization. Silver. Choice Extremely Fine.** Plain edge. Deep pewter gray with lovely natural iridescence of gold and pale blue on reflective surfaces. Impressive eye appeal and remarkably choice. Obverse die cracked at truncation of bust; reverse cud just above 9:00 at rim. While not a great rarity like a gold Betts-44, this scarce silver specimen is a very high quality example of this popular medal from the early days of British colonization and the beginnings of the empire upon which the sun never set. Attractive and appropriate for inclusion in any collection which includes American reference medals, American colonial coins or British coins of the period.

Weight: 500.2 grains. Diameter: 41.8 mm.

Purchased from Spink & Son's Numismatic Circular, February 1989, Lot 502.



- 1018 Betts-52. 1677 Victory at Tobago. Copper. Choice About Uncirculated.** Plain edge. Attractive medium brown with violet and cobalt blue highlights on reflective surfaces. Very pleasing with only a short nick on Louis' jaw and a few minuscule ticks noted for accuracy. From the texture of this medal, it is probably a somewhat later restrike, perhaps 18th or early 19th century. Struck in honor of French actions resulting in the capture of the island of Tobago off the coast of modern-day Venezuela in 1677.

Because of its proximity to the mainland, including the Orinoco River, and its excellent natural harbors, Tobago "has changed hands more often than any other island of the West Indies, having been at various times held by English, Dutch, and French" according to *Webster's New Geographical Dictionary*. It was discovered by Columbus in 1498 but remained uncolonized until the first attempt in 1614 by the Spanish, followed soon thereafter by a group of Dutchmen in 1628. A ship of settlers from the district now comprising Latvia colonized the island for a two-year span in the late 1630s, and future settlers of the same origin remained on the island until forced off by the Dutch in 1659. The English destroyed that settlement a few years thereafter, but the Dutch returned, only to see 24 French vessels in their harbor in February 1677. Despite being far outnumbered by the French, the Dutch held fast to their island until December 1677 when the French returned with a vengeance, exploding a powder magazine with what an eyewitness

ness account calls "a fire ball," actually a mortar round, which killed a third of the island's population. This bold act made the French masters of Tobago, commemorated by the reverse legend of this medal with the legend INCENSA BATAVORUM CLASSE or "The Dutch fleet burned" with the goddess Victory holding a fiery thunderbolt aloft while standing on a galley, perhaps the most horrific allegory of any medal of the period. One of the most interesting actions in the Caribbean and one of very few which involved the French in this period.

Weight: 510.6 grains. Diameter: 41.5 mm.

Oddly, Tobago was also the scene of a battle during the American Revolution. In 1778, a squadron of six ships including the American battleship *Randolph* attempted to take the island from the British. The *Randolph* was blown up by the *H.M.S. Yarmouth* at a loss of 315 men, making it the deadliest action of the Revolutionary War. Among those lost was the captain, Nicholas Biddle of the same Philadelphia family as the future head of the Bank of the United States Nicholas Biddle, born in 1786.

Purchased from Spink & Son's Numismatic Circular, April 1996, Lot 1881.

Notable 1683 Dutch West India Company Medal

Overstruck on Holland Two Ducatoon
Relic of the African Slave Trade



1019 Betts-64. 1683 Dutch West India Company. Silver. Choice About Uncirculated. Plain edge. Boldly overstruck on a two ducatoon of Holland ca. 1671-1680. Lustrous silver gray with pale violet and rose highlights. Minor planchet split at 3:00 on obverse rim. A few tiny scratches and haymarks do nothing to detract from the excellent eye appeal of this specimen. Fascinatingly, this medal struck by the primary Dutch trading company in the Western Hemisphere is overstruck on one of the primary trade coins used in that commerce. Evidence of the undercoin is clear on both obverse and reverse, including a crown in the left obverse field and traces of the shield at central reverse.

Some note has already been made of the Dutch West India Company in connection with other Dutch medals of the period in this offering. The Dutch West India Company (or Geoctroyeerde Westindische Compagnie) was established in 1621 by charter of the States-General of the United Netherlands. By the terms of their charter, the company was granted an official monopoly on all trade on the Atlantic including colonies in Africa, the West Indies, and North and South America. The DWC was also permitted to establish colonies in the name of the States-General, which they did with great glee and delight: Fort Oranje at Albany in 1624, Fort Nassau at Philadelphia in the same year, Fort Good Hope at Hartford in 1633, and of course Fort Amsterdam at New York City in 1626. The Company attempted to populate its new colonies with assurances of wealth through the fur trade in these re-

gions, and offered patroonships with huge tracts of land to any investor who would pay to bring 50 new colonists to the New York settlements. During the turnover of New York to the English between 1664 and 1674, the Dutch West Indies Company turned its attention to settlements in modern-day Guyana and Suriname as well as African possessions such as Angola and Madagascar. In 1674, the company disbanded and reformed as the Nieuwe West Indische Compagnie, whose sphere included Curacao, the aforementioned properties on the north coast of South America, and several African ports. Their trade revolved around sugar cane, coffee, chocolate, and slaves.

This medal depicts and names one of the jewels of the Dutch West India Company crown during this period when the role of the Company was changing from its height as a colonizing force in the 1620s and 1630s. The castle of St. George d'Elmina in Ghana was built in 1482 by the Portuguese and captured in 1637 by the Dutch West India Company, who used it as a center of trade in slaves and gold coming from the region of Africa known as "the Gold Coast." Millions of enslaved men and women were transported from the port of Elmina, which translates as "the mine" in Portuguese, to the Caribbean, Brazil, and mainland North America. The castle, which still stands and is the oldest European building in Africa, is depicted with the striped flag of the Dutch West India Company flying above it and a well-detailed galleon in the foreground. While the legend FULCRA NON MINIMA has never been satisfactorily translated, Betts' rendering as "Not the smallest support" may imply that the slaves and gold of Africa were a large reason for the success of the Company. Indeed, the so-called "triangular trade" that entangled the American colonies, Europe, and the Gold Coast of Africa together was driven by slaves from Africa. A European ship would visit a "factory," or trading post operated by factors (tradesmen), on the African coast, such as the one at St. George d'Elmina, and trade its manufactures for slaves. The slaves would be taken to the Caribbean in trade for molasses and sugar for the European markets. The New England colonies in this period were tied in as the major source of the world's rum, produced from Caribbean molasses and often exchanged for slaves, who were traded up and down the Eastern Seaboard in the late 17th century. In the bizarre Atlantic economy of the epoch during which this medal was struck, the Dutch West India Company and its castle of St. George d'Elmina were absolutely central. As such, this medal is of the highest historical significance as a rare and important relic of the African slave trade, struck over a coin gained by the Dutch as profit in this ignominious traffic.

Weight: 503.4 grains. Diameter: 46.0 mm.

From Jacques Schulman's sale of November 1971, Lot 661.



The castle of St. George d'Elmina in Ghana, one of the largest slave markets in Western Africa and a center of African activities for the Dutch West Indies Company.

Extremely Rare 1687 Albemarle Medal

Betts-66



1020 Betts-66. 1687 Albermarle, Governor of Jamaica. Silver. Extremely Fine. Plain edge. Silver gray with violet iridescence and darker highlights at the peripheries. Small rim nick at 5:00 on obverse, some old hairlines, and a few short scratches in reverse field noted, but the overall visual appeal of this piece is splendid. Detailed portrait of Christopher Monck, Second Duke of Albermarle, in full regalia on obverse, with a reverse depiction of Neptune with trident and legend EX AQUA OMNIA or "All things from water," a reference to the successful expedition by Monck and Sir William Phipps to salvage the treasure of the *Nuestra Senora de la Concepcion* at Silver Shoals off the Dominican Republic.

The Duke of Albermarle was a wealthy and sophisticated man, a former chancellor of Cambridge University and decorated veteran who was named Governor of Jamaica in 1687. He died the following year; this medal may have been struck at the time of his death. Today, Betts-66 is one of the outstanding rarities of the Caribbean subseries of Betts medals, rarer than its better known (and still rare) companion piece Betts-67 which likewise celebrates the Silver Shoals salvage. As such, it is one of the highlights of the present offering and specialists in the series should recognize the unusual nature of a specimen of this medal in this excellent quality being offered on American shores.

Weight: 617.9 grains. Diameter: 46.3 mm.

For a complete notice of the treasure salvage sponsored by Christopher Monck at Silver Shoals in 1687, please see the following lot.

Several geographic features in the modern United States including Albemarle Sound on the coast of North Carolina and Albemarle County in central Virginia were named for Monck's father George Monck, the first Duke of Albemarle and one of the "Lords Proprietors" of Carolina made famous by the 1694 Carolina Elephant token.

From Sotheby's sale of April 1994, Lot 272.



Sir William Phipps, the salvor of the *Concepcion* at Silver Shoals. From Thomas Sebring's book *Treasure Tales: Shipwrecks and Salvage*.

Very Nice 1687 Silver Shoals Medal

Betts-67



1021 Betts-67. 1687 Recovery of Treasure, St. Domingo. Silver. About Uncirculated. Plain edge. Rich light blue, rose, and golden highlights on reflective silver gray surfaces. Tiny planchet flaw at rim near 6:00 on obverse affects no legends or devices, and another even smaller one at 11:00 on obverse is barely noticeable. A lovely quality specimen of this well-known and popular medal.

Obverse shows James II of England and Mary of Modena in jugate, while the reverse depicts a British warship on the high seas with three men in a smaller boat hoisting remains of the *Nuestra Senora de la Concepcion* with the legends SEMPER TIBI PENDEAT HAMUS, from Ovid meaning "Let thy hook always hang," and NAVRATA REPERTA, or "Shipwreck discovered," with the date 1687. This refers to perhaps the most famous Spanish treasure salvage of all time before the days of Mel Fisher and Kip Wagner, that of the *Concepcion* by Sir William Phipps (sometimes spelled Phips) off the coast of Hispaniola at what became known as "Silver Shoals."

According to Betts, specimens of this medal were "presented to the officers and promoters of Sir Wm. Phipps's expedition" and may have been, like the medals of Piet Heyn, struck from silver taken from the recovered wreck. According to shipwreck researcher Thomas Sebring, Phipps recovered no less than 37,538 Spanish colonial eight reales in addition to nearly 28,000 pounds of silver ingots. This beautiful medal is a magnificent connection to that historic shipwreck and recovery effort that led to the rise and fall of Phipps as a colonial official in Massachusetts.

Weight: 985.3 grains. Diameter: 54.5 mm.

Phipps was born in the territory now comprising Maine and worked as a ships' carpenter and merchant ship captain. Fascinated by the story of the *Concepcion's* loss in shallow reefs on November 2, 1641, Phipps found backing for an expedition to salvage the wreck with the wealthy Duke of

Albemarle, Christopher Monck. Phipps and his crew recovered vast amounts of the lost Spanish treasure, including over 25 pounds of gold in addition to the silver noted above. Phipps was awarded a large part of the Spanish treasure, with published reports ranging from £11,000 to £20,000, and Monck also profited from his investment to the tune of £90,000 according to Betts. Phipps was also knighted and named provost-marshal of New England, where he led the failed expedition from Boston to capture Quebec. He became governor of Massachusetts in 1692 and he vigorously pursued the witchcraft trials until his own wife was accused, after which the mania soon abated. His questionable conduct led to calls for hearings in London in 1694, but he died before they took place.

The *Concepcion*, not to be confused with a ship of identical name that sunk near the Philippines, was further salvaged in the modern era. Jacques Cousteau pursued the wreck in the late 1960s, but the new mother lode was not discovered until 1978 after the log written by one of Phipps' officers was located in a tiny museum in England. 60,000 more coins were found by this expedition. A full account is given in Sebring's *Treasure Tales: Shipwrecks and Salvage*.

Purchased from Eugene Leipman on June 3, 1975.

Another 1687 Silver Shoals Medal

Variety Unlisted by Betts



1023 As Betts-67. 1971 copy of 1687 Recovery of Treasure, St. Domingo. Silver. Choice Mint State. 224 and touch marks on edge. Light blue and golden toning on heavily reflective surfaces. A beautiful prooflike silver medal struck by the government of the Turks and Caicos Islands, in whose waters the then undiscovered wreck laid. 1,000 pieces were struck, of which this specimen is number 224. Accompanied by a certificate and its original box of issue.

Weight: 1581.0 grains. Diameter: 54.1 mm.

Purchased at the time of issue.

1022 As Betts-67. 1687 Recovery of Treasure, St. Domingo. Silver. Extremely Fine. Plain edge. Pewter gray with golden lustre at the periphery. Edge filed at 12:00 and traces of repair at the same location on obverse and reverse where a suspension mount was removed. While visible, these vestiges of suspension do not affect design elements. Oddly, this variety of Betts-67, struck from different obverse and reverse dies, has very high reverse rims as if to protect the reverse design from rub when worn, and may have been issued with suspension mount, intended to be worn as an award. The obverse has no stop between D G and the reverse shows a more obvious portion of the wreck of the *Concepcion* in the waves and has stops preceding and following the exergual legend. This variant die pair is rarer than that offered in the previous lot. The present specimen is very attractive and is a lovely example of this rare and interesting medal.

Weight: 774.7 grains. Diameter: 52.5 mm.

From Glendining's sale of March 1989, Lot 284.

Extremely Rare 1700 "Toubucan" Medal

Betts-88



1024 Betts-88. 1700 Scottish Colony at Darien. Silver. Very Fine.

Plain edge. Light pewter gray with lustrous golden highlights adhering to design elements and legends. Numerous faint ancient scratches in field visible under magnification. Pleasing eye appeal and no damage to rims. An extreme rarity in the Betts medal field and a very important medal, issued by the Company of Scotland Trading to Africa and the Indies after the 1700 settlement of Scotsmen at Darien in modern Panama. According to *Medallic Illustrations*, a specimen in gold was presented to the hero of the expedition, Captain Alexander Campbell, upon his return to Scotland. Silver specimens such as this may have been presented to other important colonists upon their return as well.

The medal depicts a Highlander in kilt displaying sword and shield with beleaguered star fort in background, the legend reading QUID NON PRO PATRIA or "What not for one's country" above and TOUBOCANTI UBI 1600 HISPAN FUDIT DUX ALEXANDER CAMPBELL MDCC 8 FEBR. or "At Toubucan, where Captain Alexander Campbell put to

flight 1600 Spaniards, February 8 1700" below exergual line. The reverse shows the shield of the Company of Scotland Trading to Africa and the Indies with African and Indian supporting and legends QUA PANDITUR ORBIS and VIS UNITA FORTIOR meaning "Wherever the world extends" and "Power is stronger united," respectively. A brief history of the settlements at Darien and the Company of Scotland Trading to Africa and the Indies is given below. This is one of the most famous medals in the series and appears at public auction perhaps once a decade. Specialists in the series and enthusiasts of Scottish or Central American history would be wise to take full advantage of this opportunity.

Weight: 978.4 grains. Diameter: 56.4 mm.

The Company of Scotland Trading to Africa and the Indies was founded in June 1695, in the era prior to the 1707 Act of Union which bound Scotland to England. At the time, each nation had a semiprivate corporation that worked for its benefit in overseas trade and founded overseas colonies of the home country. The Company of Scotland Trading to Africa and the Indies was formed in this light as Scotland was suffering from difficult economic straits and famine and was led by a London-based Scottish merchant named William Paterson. Forming a colony was one of the primary goals of the company, but it had to be done at a location out of the way of contemporary English colonization efforts in North America, the Caribbean, and Africa. Paterson chose Darien at Panama, the place where Balboa first sighted the Pacific Ocean and in the middle of a malarial swamp. In November 1698, after a three month voyage, the first settlement of the colony of New Caledonia was made and called New Edinburgh. By the time the second expedition was launched from Scotland in 1699, New Edinburgh was vacant, its residents the victims of rampant disease and famine. Those settlers were doomed from the beginning, having taken worsted stockings and thick Scottish wool to trade in the jungles of Panama for the wealth of Asian trade goods and available food they were certain to find. A New England based merchantman called *Three Sisters* was even dispatched by Scots in New York to assist the starving colony. The second wave of would-be colonizers included Captain Alexander Campbell of Fonab, who, according to *Medallic Illustrations*,

"finding that 1600 Spaniards were encamped at Toubucan [Toubacanti], waiting the arrival of a squadron of 11 ships, when they intended to attack the new settlers, he determined to strike the first blow, and to take them by surprise. He advanced rapidly with 200 men, stormed their entrenchments, and drove them before him with great slaughter. The settlers, however, could not stand against the accumulated force of the Spaniards, and capitulated, after a stout resistance, upon highly honorable terms."

In fact, there was little honor to be had in the battle or the escape from Darien. Despite the celebrating mob that enveloped the city of Edinburgh on June 20 when news of the victory against the Spanish first reached Scotland, the expedition to Darien ranks among the worst disasters in Scottish history. The remaining settlers limped by boat to Jamaica in April 1700; 250 more died on that voyage. Only 300 of the few thousand settlers actually returned to Scotland alive, and it is not beyond reason to suggest that every survivor received a medal. To this day, Darien remains a wasteland and is the last remaining gap on the Pan-American highway that stretches from the Arctic Circle to Tierra del Fuego. Darien founder Paterson, who had earlier founded the Bank of England and was the first purveyor of the idea of a national debt, had his investors in the company paid out of "the Equivalent," a portion of the English national debt paid to Scotland in cash as a condition of union for assuming some of that debt in the new Great Britain. Paterson died in 1719.

From Glendining's sale of June 1990, Lot 302.

Another 1700 Toubucan Medal

Unlisted in White Metal



- 1025 Betts-88. 1700 Scottish Colony at Darien. White metal. About Uncirculated.** Plain edge. Silver gray with fully reflective surfaces and bright lustre. Tiny flaw on rim near 3:00 on reverse is not visible from either obverse or reverse. Bubble in left obverse field near sword noted for future identification of this specimen. A beautiful example in white metal of the very rare Toubucan medal, previously *unknown in this metal*. We record no other specimens struck in this composition. The present example appears to have been struck on a different press than the specimen in silver, with square rims and the collaring marks frequently seen on mid to late 18th-century medals visible on rim at 1:00 and 9:00 relative to the reverse. The detail also appears much stronger than on the somewhat softly struck silver specimen, though the die states are congruent. Most likely, this specimen was struck ca. 1760-1800 at greater pressure on a more modern press than the silver specimens. An very important variety of the rare 1700 Toubucan medal.

Weight: 852.0 grains. Diameter: 56.6 mm.

From Spink's Sale #96, March 1993, Lot 518.



- 1026 Betts-95. 1702 Vigo Bay. Brass. Extremely Fine.** Plain edge. Choice glossy olive with lustre and a higher technical grade, but a bit flatly struck on high points and last line of reverse exergual legend. Excellent eye appeal with some ancient pin scratches on obverse apparent under magnification. One of the finer ex-

ecuted "Nuremburg counters" of the period, with designs copied from other larger medals commemorative of the event at Vigo Bay. This medal, after Betts-102, features a reverse legend ANGLOR. ET. BATAV. VIRTUTE. INCENS. CLASSE OPES AMERIC. INTER CEPT 1702. or "By the bravery of the English and Dutch, the fleet burned, and American treasure captured" with a rendering of the Vigo inlet and its harbors. A well above average specimen of this very popular issue.

Weight: 78.6 grains. Diameter: 26.3 mm.

Beginning in 1701, the War of the Spanish Succession raged in Europe, the next in a string of continental wars with counterparts in America. The latest conflict began after the Hapsburg Charles II of Spain named the Bourbon Philip, Duc d'Anjou, to be his heir. This consolidation of the power of France and Spain was threatening to the other powers in Europe, so England, the Netherlands, and others united against them.

On June 11, 1702, in the midst of this heated conflict, a Spanish treasure fleet of 17 heavily laden ships left with armed French escorts from the harbor at Havana. This was the first such departure of the metallic wealth of the New World mines in years due to the unsafe travel during wartime, but conditions in Spain demanded transport of this wealth to the Continent. The British and Dutch fleets awaited this massive flotilla off Cadiz, the usual port of entry for New World galleons in southern Spain, so the Spanish and French forces turned for Vigo, a well-protected harbor at the extreme north of the Spanish coastline. By pure luck, the British and Dutch discovered the change in plans while in port for supplies at Lagos in Portugal, just up the coast from Cadiz. According to Thomas Sebring, "During the stop, the Reverend Mr. Beavoir, chaplain of the [British ship] *Pembroke*, struck up a conversation with the French consul at the port. Since he was a native of one of the Channel islands, Beavoir spoke French extremely well, and the Consul, regarding him as almost a Frenchman, talked freely and let slip the fact that the Spanish treasure galleons, escorted by the French fleet, were now at anchor at the harbor of Vigo."

Led by Sir George Rooke, the combined Dutch and English forces left for Vigo, where they arrived on October 11 and penetrated the well-defended harbor that hid the galleons full of gold and silver from mines in Mexico. A fiery battle ensued, and the Spanish purposely sank many of the ships so their rich cargo would not fall into enemy hands, and hopefully could be easily salvaged once the threat had passed. Despite this action, 11 Spanish and French ships were captured intact and British divers recovered much of the sunken treasure as well. This placid Spanish port saw one of the worst defeats of the Spaniards of the war, during which they lost a large quantity of silver worth nearly £1,000,000 at the time. From the captured booty, silver and gold coins were struck in 1702 and 1703 with the word VIGO at the truncation of the bust of Queen Anne, and commemorative medals were also struck. A battle would not be similarly celebrated on English coinage until another capture was lauded on the LIMA coinage of 1745 and 1746.

Purchased from James King.



- 1027 Betts-96. 1702 Vigo Bay. Silver. Extremely Fine.** Plain edge. Holed for suspension at 12:00. Silver gray with muted violet and gold and much reflective lustre remaining. Tiny rim nick at 7:00 on obverse. According to *MI*, this medal was executed in Holland and represents the battle "during the full heat of the engagement." Indeed, the fleet is seen with smoke billowing from its center and many ships half-sunk while the British fleet looms large at the entrance to the harbor. Holed for suspension as it is, this medal may have been worn by a Dutch combatant or supporter on the home front. A very pleasing specimen of this avidly sought medal.

Weight: 506.0 grains. Diameter: 43.6 mm.

From Spink's Numismatic Circular of June 1996, Lot 3103.



- 1028 Betts-97. 1702 Vigo Bay. Silver. Choice Extremely Fine.** Plain edge. Attractive deep pewter gray with lovely gold and blue highlights. Tiny nicks at eye, bun, and MD in reverse exergue noted for accuracy. Very pleasing visual appeal and superb preservation for this medal. From dies by John Croker of the Tower Mint (also known as the engraver of the 1688 American Plantation tokens), this official medal enjoyed wide distribution and was struck from three different pairs of dies according to Betts, which are further noted below. All dies show portrait of Anne on obverse with broad panoramic view of Vigo on the reverse with legend CAPTA ET INCENSA GAL ET HISP CLASSE, or "The French and Spanish fleets captured and burned," with date and VIGO below. Star fort plain at harbor's entrance where British ships blockade. A high quality example of this archetypal Vigo medal.

Weight: 279.4 grains. Diameter: 36.9 mm.

In the three different specimens herein offered, two obverse dies and two reverse dies are seen.

Silver: Obverse die 1, with cross atop crown centered just left of right leg of R. Reverse die A, with last I of XII clearly recut and last I of MDCCII centered under gap between II and leaning right. Small ship at mouth of harbor.

Pewter: Obverse die 1, later die state with curved crack at left side of truncation of bust and some rust within legend. Reverse die B, with last I of MDCCII almost entirely under I above, with X joined to I at base and first I joined to second I at top. No boat at mouth of harbor.

Copper: Obverse die 2, with cross atop crown centered under right serif of left foot of R and almost completely beneath it. Obverse die cracked from right side of truncation of bust to rim. Reverse die B, now heavily broken with cud over HISP.CLA and crack from rim over GALET. to cud. Smaller rim cud at SSE.

The third obverse die, as noted by Betts, has FR instead of FRA in legend. There may be others as well.

Purchased from Dr. Patterson.



- 1029 Betts-97. 1702 Vigo Bay. Copper. Choice About Uncirculated.** Plain edge. Glossy medium chocolate brown with lots of mint color and lustre around legends and devices. Exceptional eye appeal. Tiny planchet fissure at 5:00 on rim extends nearly invisibly beyond shoulder. Die states as noted under previous lot. A very high quality specimen.

Weight: 260.2 grains. Diameter: 37.9 mm.

Purchased from Richard Picker.



- 1030 Betts-97. 1702 Vigo Bay. Pewter cast. Extremely Fine.** Plain edge. Dark pewter gray with bright silver gray lustre around legends and devices. Some casting texture in fields, but overall a very pleasing specimen. Probably cast roughly contemporarily to the original medals, perhaps in order to market specimens to the working classes who could not afford official specimens struck in silver or copper; a bootleg, of sorts. Unlisted in this medal and undoubtedly quite scarce. Worthy of a premium bid from the specialist.

Weight: 210.9 grains. Diameter: 37.1 mm.

While dating cast pieces can be a tricky process, common sense would dictate that since the greatest demand for these medals was within a few years of this very important battle and since the medals have never been rare or costly enough for a numismatist to cast a copy, it was likely cast contemporarily.

From the Spink Numismatic Circular of December 1987, Lot 7486 as "unpublished and very rare in pewter."



- 1031 Betts-101. 1702 Vigo Bay. Silver. Choice Very Fine.** Lettered edge. Pleasing pewter gray with sedate circles of green, rose, and gold toning. Much lustre adheres to protected areas of the design. Nice visual appeal with only a few tiny rim nicks barely worthy of note. This variety is many times rarer than the previously offered Vigo types, and has the additional distinction of being the only medal in the series with a lettered edge. Edge reads DECIDIT IN CASSES PRÆDA PETITA MEOS OVID or "The prey sought for is fallen into my nets" from Ovid's *Amatoria*.

The obverse has a detailed scene of Victory crowning a trophy with objects of war beneath and the legend SPES ET VIRES HOSTIUM FRACTÆ INCENSA GALLOR CLASSES HISPAN OPES AMERIC INTERCEPT or "The hope and strength of the enemy is broken. The French fleet burnt, and the American treasures of Spain intercepted." The reverse shows a map of the Vigo inlet with ships in foreground and the legend ANGLORUM ET BATAVORUM VIRTUTE AD VIRGOS PORT GALLICIE or "by the valor of the English and Dutch at Vigo Bay, Spain" with the date 1702. This is an impressive medal, accomplished in Germany according to *ML*, who notes only silver specimens despite the fact that Betts also notes specimens in tin; those seen by Betts may have been casts. Infrequently offered and certain to excite specialists in the series.

Weight: 397.7 grains. Diameter: 40.5 mm.

Purchased from Dr. Patterson.



- 1032 **Betts-148. 1721 Guadeloupe Fortified. Silver. Mint State.** ARGENT edge with cornucopia, ca. 1880-1898. Fully lustrous silver gray with subtle rose and gold highlights. Choice eye appeal with no marks worthy of note. Struck at the Paris Mint in the late 19th century, this restrike is extremely rare, and original specimens are almost unheard of.

Guadeloupe was an important French possession in the 18th century as a valuable sugar plantation, so valuable in fact that France renounced all rights to Canada in order to lay claim to the islands again in 1763 after their capture by the British in 1759. While it is uncertain exactly what this medal celebrates, the suggestion that it celebrates fortifications may be incorrect. Around 1721, privateers and pirates wreaked havoc on Caribbean shipping. The reverse legend GUADALUPA INSULA MUNITA seems to translate per Betts' suggestion to "Guadeloupe fortified in 1721." The reverse depicts the islands somewhat crudely with attractive if exaggerated ocean wave action in foreground. A pleasing specimen of an extremely rare medal.

Weight: 596.6 grains. Diameter: 41.5 mm.

From Alamanzar's sale of June 1973, Lot 4647.

- 1033 **Betts-168. 1733 Company of the Indies. Copper. Mint State.**

Plain edge. Lovely reflective medium chocolate brown and violet faded from natural mint color with some vestiges of red in the intricacies of the legend. Fully lustrous and supremely attractive. Tiny spot of inactive corrosion noted in left obverse field behind hair curl, and an abrasion and dig on Louis' cheek is barely visible to the unaided eye.

The Company of the Indies, or Compagnie des Indes, was founded in 1719 upon the consolidation of the Western Company and the East India Company under John Law. This new entity was instrumental in the colonization of Louisiana, though it collapsed soon after the departure of John Law and was reorganized as the French Company of the Indies or Compagnie Française des Indes in 1720. At the time of the company's reorganization, it held the trade monopoly of France for Louisiana, Canada, Dominica, Syria, Senegal and Guinea in Africa, and the Indian states. The Compagnie Française des Indes resigned its monopoly in Louisiana in November 1731 and several others within a few years, but at the time of this medal's creation it still had the official Crown monopoly on Canada, Mauritius, and several ports in Africa and India.

As the French agent for Oriental trade and the Canadian fur trade, the Compagnie Française des Indes rivalled the Dutch East India Company and its British counterpart, the East India Company, in its importance in world commerce. The reverse legends and devices of this medal refer to this preeminence: JUGENDIS AMPLIORI ET FACILIORI COMMERCIO GENTIBUS EMPORIUM HOC A FUNDAMENTIS EXTRUXIT SOCIETAS INDIARUM GALLICA or "The French Company of the Indies has erected this emporium from its foundations, for the purpose of joining the nations by a larger and more easy intercourse" according to Betts, with the caduceus representative of trade and cornucopia representing plenty below. This beautiful medal is an important relic of this extremely significant corporation, whose trade in North America and worldwide had a remarkable impact during its existence and beyond.

Weight: 1518.7 grains. Diameter: 59.2 mm.

From Johnson and Jensen's sale of November 1982, Lot 392.

Exciting 1745 Betts-381

The Inspiration for the English LIMA Coinage



1034 Betts-381. 1745 Treasure Captured at Lima. Copper. Choice Fine or slightly better. Plain edge. Light and medium chocolate brown with glossy smooth surfaces. Somewhat crudely struck and misaligned. Some minor nicks and a rim nick at 9:00 relative to obverse noted, but this piece still displays superb eye appeal for the grade. This variety is the only one cited by Betts which refers to the famous Lima treasure of 1745, whose story has confused numismatists for well over a century.

The present medal celebrates the capture of the *Lewis Erasmus*, the *Notre Dame*, and the *Marquis D'Antin* by the English privateers *Duke* and *Prince Frederick* on July 10, 1745 "off the coast of South America," according to Betts. £800,000 worth of gold and silver bullion was captured by the two British ships, and this medal records that "They came to London, October 1 and 2, 1745." This delivery is depicted on the reverse of the medal, showing the last of 45 horse-drawn carts full of treasure arriving at the Tower where the mint was located. The medal likewise shows the victorious captains, James Talbot and John Morecock, carried by "two infant Fames." This bullion was struck at the Tower Mint into a famous series of silver and gold coins which featured the word LIMA at the truncation of the bust of George II.

Accounts from Herbert Grueber's *Handbook of the Coins of Great Britain and Ireland in the British Museum*, 1899 to Robert Nesmith's monograph "The Lima Pieces of George II of En-

gland" have attributed the bullion to Admiral George Anson's circumnavigation, especially his capture of the *Cobadonga* near Manila in 1743, but common sense would dictate that LIMA would probably be less appropriate for bullion, almost entirely silver, found all over the world from 1740 to 1744 than for a single massive quantity found earlier in 1745, the first year of the mintage of the LIMA coins, on board ships recently departed from Lima. Nesmith and others have made reference to the capture of the *Lewis Erasmus*, the *Notre Dame*, and the *Marquis D'Antin* in their discussions of the LIMA coins, but seem to have preferred the unlikely but more romantic story of Anson and the *Cobadonga*. Unlike the overt act of war at Vigo Bay which was celebrated on English coinage and inspired a variety of medallic issues, this rare medal is the only one struck explicitly for the capture of the Lima treasure. As such, enthusiasts of treasure and British coins should realize the historic importance of the specimen presently offered.

Weight: 266.6 grains. Diameter: 35.9 mm.

If numismatics demands another possibility for the origin of the LIMA bullion coined into silver and gold coins in 1745 and 1746, Anson's captures should rank a distant third behind the Talbot and Morecock capture and another capture, previously unlinked to the issue. In 1745, King George's War still raged on in the American colonies as the French and English battled for the same ground that they would revisit during the French and Indian War. One of these sites was the legendary Fortress Louisbourg, captured by the British in 1745, only to be returned by the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle and recaptured in 1758 once and for all. During the first capture by British forces, a massive quantity of bullion was taken by French ships moored at the fortress to find safe harbor from the now dangerous trade routes. Among these was the *Notre Dame de la Délivrance*, an East Indiaman on the return trip home to Lima from Cadiz (where the fleet captured at Vigo was heading and the principal colonial trade port of French ally Spain). According to contemporary documentation, she carried a cargo of 972,000 pieces of eight, 13,278 gold double doubloons, 291-1/2 lbs. of virgin silver, and 65-1/2 lbs. in gold bars and was captured by the British ships *Chester* and *Sutherland* in June 1745, a month before the capture celebrated on the presently offered medal. This huge bounty of silver and gold bullion, captured by this trading ship whose home port was Lima, should also be considered a candidate for inclusion in the massive bullion reserves struck into the LIMA coinage of 1745 and 1746.

Purchased from Ted Craig on November 19, 1970.

Rare and Important 1747 Anson Medal in Gold

With Original Case



Lord Anson and his ship *H.M.S. Centurion* do battle with the Spanish ship *Cobadonga* in 1743. From Thomas Sebring's book *Treasure Tales: Shipwrecks and Salvage*.

1035 Betts-382. 1747 Lord Anson. Gold. Mint State. Plain edge. Fully lustrous and reflective light yellow gold. Beautifully detailed and visually impressive, despite some hairlines in the prooflike fields and a minor rim bruise at 5:00 on reverse. This is a truly remarkable medal, still with its well-preserved original shagreen presentation case after over 250 years.

One of the most recognizable Betts medals in the series, the Anson medal was struck in large numbers to celebrate the four year circumnavigation of earth by Commodore George Anson and his ship *Centurion*. The obverse design features Anson crowned by Victory following the designs of the triumphal coinage of Augustus to commemorate Admiral Anson's victory over the French at Cape Finisterre off the northwest coast of Spain on May 3, 1747. The reverse celebrates the circumnavigation, also in classical form, including the dates of the voyage and the names of his six officers. The designs by Pingo are of a similar style to those accomplished by him a decade later after designs by Giovanni Cipriani for the Society for Promoting Arts and Commerce under Thomas Hollis III. While copper specimens are not infrequently seen, gold specimens are a remarkable rarity. Typically, gold medals were awarded only to the highest ranking officers involved in an action, and in the case of the Anson medals it seems sensible that each of Anson's officers named on the reverse of the medal, the captains of the ships at Cape Finisterre, and Anson himself would have received a specimen in gold. It is difficult to conceive that any more than two dozen would have been distributed; we record three specimens offered in the last 25 years at public auction.

This specific piece has an historic pedigree. The medal is accompanied by two handwritten notes, one from 1859 which suggests the medal may have been given by Anson to a Sir Thomas Parker, the author's great grandfather "to whom he [Anson] was related." Sir Thomas Parker was the chief baron of the Exchequer in the same period and may be the same individual herein named. The baron of the exchequer would have been the official judge of how much of a found treasure would have reverted to the crown and what each sailor would have been accorded as his share of "prize money." Parker served as chief baron from 1742 until his retirement in 1772, and he would have overseen both the distribution of captured treasure from the circumnavigation, including the *Cobadonga* treasure, and the treasure captured at Cape Finisterre in 1747. If this medal was in fact delivered to Sir Thomas Parker by Anson, it represents a golden thank you note from the recipient of a massive portion of captured treasure to the govern-

ment official, by happenstance a relative, who determined his share! The second note is dated 1912 and is

written and signed by the Earl of Litchfield on his stationary from the family home Shugborough in Staffordshire, the estate which once belonged to Anson's brother Thomas. This letter discusses a copy of the previous note passed along to him and mentions that a specimen of the medal in gold, silver, and bronze resides in the collection at Litchfield. A piece of phenomenal historic import and nearly unparalleled visual appeal which advanced connoisseurs will undoubtedly seek to add to their holdings. (Total: 1 medal, 1 box, 2 letters)

Weight: 661.5 grains, Diameter: 43.4 mm.

In his work *The Influence of Sea Power Upon History*, Alfred Thayer Mahan said the Anson expedition "from its many misfortunes had no great military result beyond the terror and consequent embarrassment caused to the Spanish settlements, but its very misfortunes and the calm persistency which worked out a great success from them all, have given it well deserved renown." Indeed, his almost accidental circumnavigation made Anson a hero in Britain and also resulted in drastic changes to the British Navy after his promotion to First Lord of the Admiralty in 1751. While serving in that capacity as head of the Navy — a post that three who sailed around the world with him would later attain — Anson founded the Royal Marines and began a series of modernizing reforms, including uniforms, that would lead to his designation as "Father of the Modern British Navy."

The greatest single feat of his circumnavigation was his capture of the famed Manila Galleon, the *Nuestra Senora de Cobadonga*, which yielded its riches to Anson and his men in June 1743 off the Philippines. While many have attributed the bullion coined into gold and silver coins marked LIMA to this capture, this seems unlikely. Also importantly, the *Centurion* became the first English warship in Chinese waters when Anson sold the *Cobadonga* and much of her cargo at Canton. Literally, the shipwreck of Captain John Byron off Chile in 1740 while in Anson's fleet is said to have inspired his grandson's tale *Don Juan*. The fleet under Anson, sent to "take, sink, burn, or destroy all [Spanish] vessels," was lauded as an heroic action by Englishmen on both sides of the Atlantic, including those North Carolinians who named Ansonville and Anson County after the Admiral in 1750, likely in memory of his visit to ward against piracy in the Carolinas early in his career in the 1720s. The battle at Cape Finisterre only added to Anson's legend, and made him a peer as well. With 16 warships captained by talented officers such as Edward Boscawen and Peter Warren who each distinguished themselves in America at Louisbourg, the English fleet at Cape Finisterre captured nine French warships during the hostilities of the War of the Austrian Succession. Warren, Anson's second in command at that action, was later the namesake of Warren, Vermont. Though unnamed on the medal (they were not a part of the fleet that circumnavigated under Anson), Warren and Boscawen most likely received gold medals for their part in that important battle.

From Christie's sale of June 1974, Lot 148.



- 1036 Betts-382. 1747 Lord Anson. Silver. About Uncirculated. Plain edge. Lustrous pewter gray with attractive mottled toning of amber, violet, and light blue. Nearly full lustre and reflectivity remain, and a few tiny rim nicks do little to affect the splendid eye appeal. Silver specimens are quite rare, especially in this state of preservation. Silver specimens were probably distributed among the rank and file sailors and VIPs connected with the around-the-world voyage or capture at Cape Finisterre in one way or another. It is interesting to note that of the 2,139 sailors who left England with Anson in 1740, only 123 returned with him to Portsmouth on June 15, 1744. This is an excellent example of this historical medal suitable for inclusion in any collection.

Weight: 490.7 grains Diameter: 43.3 mm

From Christie's sale of June 1974, Lot 148.



- 1037 Betts-382. 1747 Lord Anson. Copper. Mint State. Plain edge. Lovely glossy medium chocolate brown with faded mint color and vestiges of red at the peripheries. Small die flaw near rim at 5:00 on obverse. Copper specimens were likely made available to the public and distributed on a fairly large scale. A very attractive specimen of this popular medal.

Weight: 521.9 grains. Diameter: 43.4 mm.

Purchased privately.

Attractive 1759 Guadalupe Surrenders Medal

Silver

Plain Edge



- 1038 Betts-417. 1759 Guadalupe Surrenders. Silver. Choice About Uncirculated. Plain edge. Warm subtle violet, gold, and pale blue toning on fully reflective silver gray surfaces. Just a hint of cabinet friction away from Mint State, this piece is fully lustrous and supremely attractive with only some very minor hairlines visible under magnification. Issued under the aegis of the Society for Promoting Arts and Commerce and, like most medals commissioned by that organization, inspired by the coins of ancient Greece and Rome.

The symbolism in the design marvelously essentializes the nature of the capture of Guadeloupe, as it is spelled today. On the obverse, Britannia with staff and shield lifts the kneeling figure of Guadeloupe, bearing sugar cane, the principal crop of the island and the resource which made it so valuable to the combatants. On the reverse, Pallas or Athena, the guide of men in wartime, holds a trident symbolic of the navy and an army standard, while standing with one foot on the ground and one on the prow of a galley, again symbolic of attack by land and sea. Guadeloupe was established and held by the French as a sugar plantation supplying both America and Europe; it was perhaps their most profitable American possession. The English realized well this profit potential, and launched an expedition against Guadeloupe and Martinique beginning in January 1759. The troops attempted to take Martinique first but failed, so Admiral John Moore and General Samuel Barrington quickly moved against Guadeloupe and were able to get regiments of Royal Highlanders and Marines ashore to assume the town of Basseterre without opposition the morning after their bombardment by sea began. Most of the troops were seeing their first action of the war and they saw heavy losses from among their ranks, but were able to capture the entire island by May 1. The island was turned back over to the French in exchange for their claim to Canada (which speaks volumes about this sugar plantation's value) by the Peace of 1763. This impressive medal places this victory on equal footing with the North American battles at Quebec and Montreal, with artistry and scarcity comparable to those classic and popular medals.

Weight: 390.6 grains. Diameter: 40.1.

A silver medal such as this would likely have been given to officers and others who distinguished themselves in battle, such as Lieutenant Alexander McLean of the Royal Highlanders. McLean lost an arm in the invasion, but was still well known by the females of the island, according to a contemporary account which stated "He was particularly noticed by the French ladies for his gallantry and spirit, and in the manner he wore his plaid and regimental garb."

Purchased from Ted Craig on April 20, 1970.

Memorable Betts-417 in Silver

Rare Lettered Edge Variety



- 1039 Betts-417. 1759 Guadalupe Surrenders. Silver. About Uncirculated. Lettered edge: WILLIAM PITT ADMINISTRING. Reflective and lustrous olive-gray with darker peripheries. Beautiful eye appeal and natural appearance with only a few inconsequential nicks and hairlines and an old scratch in the reverse exergue noted for accuracy. Slightly later die state from previous lot, with the same die rust near top of reverse and an additional crack on obverse from rim through G of GUADALUPE to conjoined hands. This variety with the WILLIAM PITT ADMINISTRING edge is much less frequently seen than the plain edge pieces, a fact that is uniformly true of the many varieties of medals from the Seven Years War period struck by the Society for Promoting Arts and Commerce with this edge device. Pitt was given the lion's share of the credit for the successful execution of the war against the French, especially in America, for his nimble movement of troops and commanders, and was also well respected by Thomas Hollis III who was the force behind the Society. An important variety and a find for the savvy enthusiast.

Weight: 392.1 grains. Diameter: 39.7 mm.

The inspiration for the edge legend WILLIAM PITT ADMINISTRING was actually Thomas Hollis III himself. His specimen of the Louisbourg Taken medal, Betts-410, still exists in the British Museum collection. This medal was not struck by the Society for Promoting Arts and Commerce, but was roughly contemporary with the first use of the edge devices on the issues of that society. Hollis's specimen was, according to *Medallie Illustrations* by his own direction inscribed upon the edge EDWARD BOSCAWEN ADMIRAL JEFFREY AMHERST GENERAL COMMANDING WILLIAM PITT ADMINISTRING." *MI* further records that Hollis presented specimens of the Goree Taken and Quebec Taken medals with the WILLIAM PITT ADMINISTRING edge device to Pitt himself upon their issue in 1758 and 1759, respectively.

From Spink America's sale of the Estate of Mary C. Cruzan, June 1997, Lot 57. Earlier in the stock of Burdette G. Johnson.



- 1040 Betts-417. 1759 Guadalupe Surrenders. Copper. Choice Mint State. Plain edge. Choice mahogany brown with pale blue and violet highlights on reflective fields. Immaculate surfaces and very beautiful, with some usual die rust near top of reverse. Copper specimens of this medal are very scarce, nearly as scarce as silver specimens, and the present example is basically unimprovable.

Weight: 449.9 grains. Diameter: 39.9 mm.

Purchased from Hank Spangenberg on December 16, 1974.

Beautiful 1762 Morro Castle Medal

Extremely Rare Silver Striking



- 1041 Betts-443. 1762 Capture of Morro Castle. Silver. Choice About Uncirculated. Plain edge. Lustrous silver gray with warm gold and amber highlights and reflective fields. A beautifully preserved specimen of this important medal with only the most superficial marks and hairlines and superb eye appeal. Some detritus clings to the interior of a few letters of the legend to no ill effect.

The Morro Castle medal in silver is one of the classics of the Betts medal series, with an intricate and remarkable design by the talented but little known hand of Don Tomas Francisco Prieto. The event commemorated was of vital importance to the history of New World commerce, opening Havana and Cuba up to trade with partners other than Spain and increasing the intercourse between the American colonies of Great Britain with the island's growing sugar and slave trade. The destruction of the Morro Castle at the port of Havana was never commemorated numismatically by the victorious British, only by the defeated Spaniards who lamented the loss of the royal governor Don Luis de Velasco and a talented commander named Vicente Gonzalez. The medal depicts Velasco and Gonzalez in jugate on the obverse with their names surrounding the portraits. The reverse shows Morro Castle from Havana harbor as its powder magazine explodes "which carries into the air the bodies of its defenders," as Betts describes the violent scene. Under magnification, detailed depictions of the town of Havana, hand-to-hand combat at the fort, and British Navy in the port become clear. The legends read IN MORRO VIT GLOR FUNCT and ARTIUM ACADEMIA CAROLO REGE CATHOL ANNVENTE CONS A MDCCLXIII under exergue or "They ended their lives at Morro Castle" with "The Academy of Arts with the consent of Charles the Catholic King has consecrated this in 1763," the year of the medal's striking. This majestic medal is an extreme rarity struck in silver, and the present example is very pleasing and well preserved. Charles Anthon, a polymath and editor of the *AJN* between 1867 and 1870, said this medal "assuredly deserves a conspicuous rank" among American medals and went on to say that "its execution is such as to do no discredit

to any cabinet, but rather reflect honor on Spanish art and at the same time excite curiosity." We can say it no better than the esteemed Anthon, and advanced specialists will no doubt realize the importance of this opportunity.

Weight: 835.8 grains. Diameter: 49.4 mm.

By 1762, the battle for North America had all but ended. General Robert Monckton, who accepted victory at Quebec after the fall of Wolfe, had become royal governor of New York and commanded the troops in that province. After welcoming commander-in-chief for North America General Jeffrey Amherst at Staten Island, Monckton departed with his New York troops and a few regiments of regulars for the Caribbean in late 1761.

The *New York Gazette* describes the launch, as recounted by Charles Anthon in the November 1869 *NYN*, "the fleet of men of war and transports, mentioned in our last, weighed anchor and put to sea, having an extraordinary fine leading gale which, by twelve o'clock at noon, carried them clear of the Hook, and its continuance almost ever since give us hopes of their having a good offing and in a prosperous way of arriving safe at their destin'd port."

The fleet captured Martinique, which eluded capture in 1759, and the Leeward islands, before arriving in Havana in the spring of 1762. While Monckton was the commander and the successful captor of Martinique, he there met up with another fleet under the command of Admiral Sir George Pocock and General George Keppel, the Earl of Albemarle. Keppel made arrangements to have reinforcements from Jamaica, including a regiment of free blacks and another of slaves, meet the fleet at Havana, and the siege of Havana began in March 1762 with 15,000 troops. The Morro Castle stood watch at the port of Havana, one of the most vibrant of all Spanish colonial ports. Constructed beginning in 1589, the Morro Castle was first built at this rich port to ward off pirates and privateers under Sir Francis Drake, and was also used by the Spanish as a prison. According to a contemporary history, also cited by Anthon, "it was thought that the Havannah (sic), from its great strength, might be successfully defended," but the large and experienced force led by Keppel (a veteran of Anson's circumnavigation) and Pocock had as good a chance as any at taking the fortress. The Spanish had 27,000 soldiers on the island, greatly outnumbering the English force, but the superior work of the British Navy in the harbor effectively destroyed the walls of the Morro Castle and allowed for it to be overtaken on July 30, 1762.

The *Annual Register* of 1762 described the scene: "The English troops ... mounted the breach, entered the fort, and formed themselves with so much celerity ... about four hundred [Spaniards] were slaughtered on the spot, or ran to the water, where they perished. Four hundred more threw down their arms, and obtained quarter. The second in command, the Marquis de Gonsales, fell whilst he was making brave but ineffectual efforts to animate and rally his people. Don Lewis de Velasco, the governor who had hitherto defended the fort with such obstinate bravery, seemed resolved in this extremity to share the same fate with it ... he received a mortal wound, and fell, offering his sword to his conquerors. The English wept with pity and admiration over that unfortunate valor which had occasioned them so many toilsome hours, and cost them so many lives."

The city of Havana fell on August 13, 1762, and the British controlled it until after the Peace of Paris was signed the following February, at which time Cuba was given back to the Spanish in exchange for Florida. The British occupation had greatly changed Havana in the meantime though, from an exclusively Spanish port to a center of trade in the Western Hemisphere. British traders eagerly sought business in Cuba in all manner of items to be bought and sold with the British colonies in North America and throughout the Caribbean, as well as on the Continent. Before the occupation, the ports of Havana saw less than 10 trading ships a year; after the taking of the city, that number swelled to 200. Havana would never be the same, and would grow to dominate all Caribbean and New World trade in the next century.

From Jacques Schulman's sale of November 1980, Lot 3400.

Attractive 1762 Morro Castle Medal

Copper



- 1042 Betts-443. 1762 Capture of Morro Castle. Copper. Choice Extremely Fine. Plain edge. Lovely dark mahogany with ruddy brown highlights at the peripheries. Glossy and attractive, though we note a bit of vertigris in the intricacies of the central obverse device that appears easily removable with a rose thorn. Very scarce in copper though not as rare as the silver strikings. The designs of this medal are as impressive in copper as they are in silver, and this specimen displays them splendidly. As one of the most sought after Betts medals on standing of both outstanding artistic merit and historical importance, this copper specimen should see spirited bidding by advanced collectors and those enthralled with the American actions of the Seven Years War.

Weight: 722.1 grains. Diameter: 49.2 mm.

Troops from New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut took part in the English invading force, including some very familiar names in American history. Lawrence Washington, the brother of George Washington who had served in the Marines under Admiral Vernon, was a part of the invading force, as was Israel Putnam, the Major General and commander at Long Island in the American Revolution.

Purchased from Al Almanzar on April 23, 1973.



- 1043 Betts-447. 1763 Peace of Paris. Silver. Extremely Fine. Plain edge. Silver gray with some coppery toning and multicolored highlights at the peripheries. Nice eye appeal despite some tiny nicks and a few ancient scratches. This diminutive medal celebrates the peace that followed the end of the Seven Years War and the treaties signed to that effect in February 1763. By this time, England and France had agreed in principle to the treaty and divisions of property worldwide. They signed the treaty on February 10. Germany signed at Hubertsburg on the following day, and on the 15th of the month the final combat-

ants, Prussia, Austria, and Saxony, signed the peace at Hubertsburg to end the Seven Years War completely. While this medal is most often associated with the Treaty of Hubertsburg, even by the editors of Betts, the treaties was essentially two parts of the same action. This medal was struck in Germany and depicts the building in Hubertsburg where the peace was signed. It proudly announces that "the messenger of Peace" had returned to Germany. A lovely medallion souvenir of the end of the Seven Years War, and by extension the war on the American front called the French and Indian War.

Weight: 39.7 grains. Diameter: 22.3 mm.

Purchased from Paul Bosco on August 21, 1982.



- 1044 **Betts-469. 1760 Lima Proclamation. Silver. Very Fine.** Corded edge. Holed for suspension at 12:00. Pewter gray with iridescent highlights of violet and rose. Very attractive for the grade with only a few tiny nicks at legend near 5:00 on reverse noted for accuracy. This medal was struck by the mint at Lima to announce the coronation of Carlos III upon the death of his half-brother Ferdinand VI and his dominion over the Viceroyalty of Peru. Its reverse shows the arms of the city of Peru within the Pillars of Hercules with an oath of allegiance to the new king. At the time of this medal's striking, Lima had waned in importance as the viceroyalty was divided in 1739, when the Viceroyalty of New Granada was established, and would be further shrunk in 1776 with the creation of the Viceroyalty of La Plata. The mint in Lima and the local mines continued to produce massive wealth for the Spanish crown and supply much of the world's trade coins and bullion. This piece, like most proclamations of the period, is quite scarce and is infrequently offered in collections of Betts medals.

Weight: 219.3 grains. Diameter: 36.5 mm.

Purchased privately.



- 1045 **Betts-483. 1760 Mexico Proclamation. Silver. Extremely Fine.** Lettered edge: CONSIDERATE LILIA NEC SALOMON IN OMNI GLORIA SUA. Pale pewter gray with reflective fields subtly toned blue; some golden lustre remains in the intricacies of the legend. A bit bluntly struck, perhaps even finer than our grade would indicate in a technical sense. Very nice eye appeal with some scattered nicks in the reverse fields noted. Like the previous medal, this piece was struck to announce the ascension of Carlos III to the throne of Spain. It was struck at Mexico City, where Betts reports that the proclamation of Carlos III as king took place on June 25, 1760 though coins had begun to be struck in the name of Carlos III

at the Mexico City Mint as early as April 23, according to Pradeau's *Numismatic History of Mexico*. This medal was probably struck sometime in that range in the spring of 1760, declaring Carlos as IMPERATOR INDIARUM or "Emperor of the Indies."

This type appears both with a plain edge and this lettered edge, noted above. The editors of Betts wonder if the implication of the legend, borrowed from the Gospel of Luke 12:27, is to a later work which refers to Carlos as "the Solomon of Spain." This type of regal flattery has been written about more kings than not, but flattering the wisdom of a brand new monarch with this biblical verse seems unusual. The implication may instead follow in the tone of that verse, that of carefree living in the hands of a beneficent guardian. This colonial medal, struck by the government who controlled what is today the American Southwest and Texas, to celebrate the king who allied himself with the United States during the Revolution, is an historic relic and a very scarce numismatic collectible.

Weight: 423.0 grains. Diameter: 39.3 mm.

Grove K-8v.

From Superior's sale of December 1972. Lot 3279.

Remarkable 1773 Carib War Medal

Very Rare

With Original Presentation Box and Pedigree



- 1046 **Betts-529. 1773 Carib War medal. Cast silver. Choice About Uncirculated.** Solid silver bezel with integral loop as issued

Silver gray with some pale blue highlights in protected areas of the legend. Surfaces textured as made with some faint scratches noted, with the entire medal attached to and encased in a silver ring with loop at 12:00 for suspension. The dies were accomplished by Georg Michael Moser, a Swiss-born artist active in London until his death in 1783, who was most known for his snuff boxes and watch cases; it is likely that he accomplished the silver ring assembly as well.

This medal was issued to veterans of the First Carib War, fought by the colonizing British against the native Garifuna people in 1772 and 1773. The Garifuna, similar to the Seminoles of Florida, were a people who resulted from the intermingling of the Carib natives of St. Vincent and African slaves who were established on the island in the 17th century. A large number of slaves allegedly took cover on the island following a 1635 Spanish shipwreck nearby, but undoubtedly slaves arrived on the island other ways as well. Before the island was actively colonized, the Garifuna people had established themselves as an economic force in the Southern Caribbean and frequently traded tobacco, cotton, and other goods with the French on St. Lucia and Martinique. French settlement on the island was a slow process throughout the 18th century, until they forfeited claims to it as a colony by the Peace of Paris in 1763. British settlement on the island began in earnest after the treaty, and soon tensions mounted between the Garifuna people and the British, who sought to develop the island as a sugar cane plantation. The Garifuna, like many North American Indians, did not appreciate the attempts to "purchase" their island in increments and be pushed off their land in favor of slave labor. The First Carib War resulted from the French, who had also been well-established on the island, taking advantage of the ill-will of the Garifuna towards the British and supporting their open rebellion against the would-be colonizers from Great Britain. Three British regiments were dispatched to St. Vincent in 1772 to little effect besides a temporary truce signed in September 1773; hostilities actually continued until British forces decimated the Garifuna and remaining French in the Second Carib War of 1795 and 1796, and transported what was left of the island's population away from its shores. This medal was issued after the First Carib War to participants in the British suppression of the rebellion. According to some published sources, the medal was issued by the Legislative Assembly of St. Vincent. If so, this would place the medal in the epoch after the 1776 founding of that body, but likely before the 1779 occupation by the French. The medal depicts George III to right with the legend GEORGIUS III MB REX or George III, the Great King of Britain. The reverse shows Britannia standing and holding an olive branch before a man wearing a loin cloth, presumably representative of a Carib native, with musket and sword at his feet. The legend reads PEACE AND PROSPERITY TO ST. VINCENTS with the date 1773 below in the exergue.

This particular specimen descended through the Leveson-Gower family until it was sold by the Right Honorable the Earl Granville, M.C. with other campaign medals and gallantry awards that had been awarded to members of his family. An ancestor of his, John Leveson-Gower, served in the Royal Navy in the West Indies between 1760 and 1777, and may have been present at the First Carib War in 1772 and 1773. We know he was in England in July 1773 to marry Frances Boscawen, the daughter of Admiral Edward Boscawen who was famed for his command in Canada during the French and Indian War. If not presented to John Leveson-Gower, it was likely presented to another member of that same influential family and was held in their holdings until the 1977 dispersal of the collection at Sotheby's. The medal is accompanied by its original shagreen case lined with red felt, custom made at the time to include this medal and the unusual mount with which it was issued.

That the medal with its case and pedigree should survive together is serendipitous for modern collectors, as this medal infrequently appears in any condition. This is perhaps the most desirable specimen of this medal to appear on the market in a generation, a point that the savvy will appreciate.

Weight: 1159.9 grains. Diameter: 55.1 mm. 69.1 mm from top of loop to base of medal.

From Sotheby's sale of January 1977, Lot 90. Earlier from the holdings of Right Honorable the Earl Granville, M.C., and earlier still likely presented to Rear Admiral John Leveson-Gower.

Enigmatic "St. Vincent's Black Corps" Medal

A Decoration for Enslaved Soldiers?



1047 Betts-530. Undated (ca. 1796) St. Vincent's Black Corps. Copper. Choice About Uncirculated. Plain edge with old museum identification inked neatly on edge at 12:00. Holed for suspension at 12:00, with a loop and ribbon of recent manufacture. Choice deep chocolate brown with reflective surfaces and choice eye appeal. Well-hidden scratch on central obverse figure and dig at K in BLACK noted for future identification.

This medal, little described by Betts and unknown to the two talented and experienced numismatists who edited his manuscript, depicts a winged standing Victory holding a palm branch and lowering a sword above the head of a prostrate figure underfoot which Betts calls "a vanquished Carib" wearing little more than a loin cloth. The obverse legend reads ST VINCENTS BLACK CORPS. The reverse depicts a single standing soldier wearing hat and ammunition pouches holding a musket with bayonet erect with the legend BOLD LOYAL OBEDIENT and H.G. FEC, the artist's signature, in the exergue below. The artist H.G. has never been identified; no medal in the *British Historical Medals* reference was signed by anyone with those initials.

While little is known of this medal, it is known that during the Second Carib War of 1795 and 1796, enslaved men under control of the British on St. Vincent's were formed into military units to combat the Garifuna natives. This medal was presumably issued to a veteran of one of those units as a reward for the virtues named on the medal's reverse, and was holed so

as to be worn. While a previous auction appearance of this specimen suggested these were awarded to native soldiers who remained loyal to the British, natives are not known to have developed any loyalty to the British on St. Vincent and supporting their cause would be to support one's own removal to parts unknown; when the British eventually won victory, thousands of Garifuna were removed to modern Belize and the Dominican Republic. Though the conflict which inspired this medal is little known, the subject matter is among the most interesting in the realm of the Betts medals and we expect this medal to see spirited bidding activity from those interested in the period.

Weight: 1040.9 grains. Diameter: 48.4 mm.

Interest in military actions of enslaved people is very high among historians and collectors, and rightly so for the unique dynamic such people and their actions represented during the American Revolution and contemporary struggles. In fact, the British attempted to raise a "Black Corps" in the United States in 1779 for service in the West Indies. By the terms of this proposal, regiments would have been raised consisting of both "mulattoes" and free blacks. While this regiment was never raised, a corps of "black pioneers" or light infantry troops was formed in 1793 by Maryland loyalist James Chalmers on Dominica. A pay stub exists in the collections of the University of New Brunswick paying Chalmers and his colonial forces in 1797; this regiment of "black pioneers" could have seen action on St. Vincent or anywhere else in the Caribbean during the same time period.

From Sotheby's sale of June 1977, Lot 87.

Rare Benjamin Franklin, L.L.D. Medal



- 1048 **Betts-545. Undated (ca. 1762) Benjamin Franklin, L.L.D. Copper. About Uncirculated.** Crudely reeded edge. Glossy medium chocolate brown with subtle iridescence in fields. Excellent natural eye appeal, though we note some ancient scratches most prominent behind the head of Franklin and a small planchet irregularity on the uniface reverse. Tiny dig at top of Franklin's head is inconsequential but noted for accuracy.

This is a very pleasing specimen of this extremely rare medal, likely the first issued depicting Franklin. Its simple design leaves few clues to its date and the location of its issuance, but the traditional wisdom about this medal states that it was struck in the 1760s to commemorate Franklin's receipt of an honorary Doctorate of Laws from University of St. Andrews in Scotland (1759), Oxford University (1762), or the University of Edinburgh (1762). The medal depicts Franklin to left on the obverse wearing a fancy wig, similar or identical to that wore by barristers, with the legend BEN FRANKLIN, L.L.D. The reverse is blank, though there is a tiny die break or flaw in the field near 3:00. Betts, following an 1891 article in the *Numismatic Chronicle*, attributes the die work to William Mossop of Dublin, who would have been 11 years old in 1762. According to Phil Greenslet's catalogue of Frankliniana, Charles Coleman Sellers' work *Benjamin Franklin in Portraiture* attributes the medal to Isaac Gosset, a British engraver best known in America for his accomplishment of the 1759 Death of Wolfe medal, Betts-422, whose dimensions are identical to this medal. The texture of the two pieces is stylistically quite similar and we feel comfortable with identifying Gosset as the artist of this piece. As the earliest medal struck to commemo-

rate Franklin, produced in the decade after his "discovery" of electricity which helped make him the toast of England (and a talked about potential member of Parliament), this variety is of the highest historical significance. That importance combined with its rarity, estimated at 11 to 15 specimens known by Greenslet, should make this medal the object of excited bidding activity.

Weight: 368.1 grains. Diameter: 36.3 mm.

Fuld FR.ME.NL.11. Greenslet GM-1.

For a medal of a very similar style also designed by Isaac Gosset, see Betts-551, the 1775 Lord North medal. According to Lossing's *Pictorial Field Book of the Revolution*, the Lord North medal by Gosset was commissioned by Oxford University. The present medal of Franklin, from the same engraver and very similar in overall design, may have likewise been struck by Oxford, and future research may prove this supposition as fact.

Purchased from George Fuld.

Very Rare "1776" Franklin Medal by Sansom Silver



- 1049 **Betts-546. "1776" (ca. 1807) Franklin medal by Sansom. Silver. Extremely Fine.** Plain edge. Deep pewter gray with a blue tone and light violet highlights on reflective surfaces. Very nice eye appeal for the grade with some insignificant rim ticks and light hairlines noted. A rim cud on the reverse from 8:00 to 10:00 has been filed long ago, perhaps very close to the time of issuance as there is no disturbance to the toning in that area. That rim cud indicates a bizarre emission sequence for the Franklin-Sansom medals and their Washington-Sansom brethren (Betts-549, in particular). This medal was first struck and made known to the public in December 1807, at which time it was offered for sale by Joseph Sansom in the Philadelphia republican newspaper *Aurora* as part of a continuing series of "Medallic History of the American Revolution." This series included the previously struck "1783" Sansom Peace medals, with C.C.A.U.S. obverse and Washington/Franklin obverse, and the "1797" Presidency Relinquished medal. These pieces were all designed by John Reich and struck at the U.S. Mint, where mulings of the dies continued to take place for perhaps a decade or more.

This medal is struck from the exact die pair as those sold by Sansom in 1807 and described in the December 1, 1807 advertisement in the *Aurora* that Stewart Witham reprints in his well-researched biography of John Reich. That advertisement describes the dies as follows:

"Obverse: A head of Benjamin Franklin taken from Hudson's [*sic*, should be Houdon's] bust. Inscription 'Lightning Averted — Tyranny Repelled'. Reverse: The American Beaver nibbling at the Overshadowing Oak of the British Power on the Western Continent. Date — 1776."

The American Beaver reverse used on this medal was subsequently muled with the Washington-Franklin obverse to produce Betts-549; some specimens of this muling such as Garrett IV:1749 show the reverse rim break whose advanced form appears on the present specimen. This example, then, was struck after the Betts-549 variety when the original die pair was re-

united for a second run and broke further, and is therefore one of the "restrikes" that R.W. Julian asserts were "made from time to time for the next several years" inside the walls of the U.S. Mint, perhaps as special gifts or favors. Specimens in silver are *very rare* and even copper specimens of this popular medal are difficult to come by. Greenslet estimates that less than 30 specimens in silver survive. An important offering for collectors of both the Betts series and the U.S. Mint medal series and one of the most popular and well-documented Franklin medals of the period.

Weight: 505.1 grains. Diameter: 40.4 mm.

Julian CM-8, Greenslet GM-80, Fuld FR.M.UN.1.

Purchased from Frederick G. Weber on November 5, 1981.

"1776" Franklin-Sansom Medal in Copper



1050 Betts-546.—"1776" (ca. 1807) Franklin-Sansom. Copper. Very Fine. Plain edge. Light chocolate brown with pleasing glossy surfaces. Some surface iridescence from a forgiven century-old cleaning noted, but the visual appeal is excellent for the grade. Tiny rim bruise at 12:00 on obverse and a few digs beneath Franklin's bust will serve to identify this example in the future. Specimens in copper of this beautiful and evocative Reich medal are by no means common; its scarcity and popularity conspire to make any auction appearance an important one. The present specimen exhibits an advanced state of the reverse rim break noted on the previous example, now extending from 8:00 to 12:30.

Weight: 544.2 grains. Diameter: 40.4 mm.

Julian CM-8, Greenslet GM-80, Fuld FR.M.UN.1.

Joseph Sansom, the wealthy Philadelphian who commissioned this medal and the related pieces in his "Medallic History of the American Revolution," was quite possessed with the historical importance of the age he happened to live in. He wrote to Jefferson on December 14, 1807 "How glorious the hope of posthumous veneration! The names of Franklin, Washington, and Jefferson will go down together to the latest ages of the American Confederacy, if, as the first planned out our independence, and the second achieved it, the third should confirm the arch of Empire, by adding the keystone of political consolidation." But Sansom had written to Jefferson before, indeed, by his first communication of December 28, 1805, he "respectfully presents a proof [an extraordinarily early use of this term] impression of a medal of General Washington" which he noted "makes one number of an intended series from the discovery of America to the retirement of Washington." Jefferson responded with a perfunctory thank-you note only four days later. Sansom continued to offer Jefferson, who had a splendid collection of contemporary medals including a gilt specimen of the Eccleston medal which still resides at Monticello, specimens of his "Medallic History" series. Jefferson offered a more thoughtful thank-you note to Sansom on March 13, 1807, probably responding to a specimen of the "1783" C.C.A.U.S. peace medal. He wrote "it is worthy of the hand of Mr. Reich, and as commemorating the most valuable character of our age or country, does honor for the patriotic spirit of Mr. Sansom ... With respect to Mr. Reich, nobody has a higher opinion of his talents than Th[is]. [Jefferson, like Bob Dole, sometimes referred to himself in the third person] nor a stronger wish to serve him."

Sansom, desperate to have the capital return to Philadelphia, and sometimes scophantic in his letters to the President, returned a letter on March 25 whose content we reproduce here because of its important nature.

"Respected Friend, I beg leave to inclose [sic], for thy acceptance, a silver medal upon the retirement of Washington, which I flatter myself will meet thy approbation, as it has been executed by Reich—the head from a drawing of Stuart. May I be permitted to take this occasion to recommend this deserving artist to thy patronage and protection. He has now been six years resident in the United States with so little [illegible], or hope of future employ, that he dreads a necessity of returning to his own country, from an inability to support himself. Would it not be a matter of regret that such rare abilities be lost to America, when there is an actual vacancy in the Mint, which it may be difficult upon a probable emergency to fill up? I mean that of Assistant Engraver. The principal engraver [Robert Scot] is old and infirm, to say nothing of his comparative skill, in which the credit of the Establishment may be materially interested. The Director of the Mint has no objection, *if such should be the President's pleasure*, and Reich offers to do extra work for the United States, such as medals etc. at one half his private price, in consideration of the easy fortune upon which permanent employ would place him. With my heartfelt congratulations upon the brightening prospect of public affairs I respectfully subscribe, Joseph Sansom."

On the exact same day that Sansom wrote this plea for Reich's hiring at the Mint, in which he claims the Mint would be "materially interested"—the implication is that Reich's talent may help the Mint survive when it was being attacked in Congress—Mint Director Robert Patterson wrote Jefferson claiming that engraver Robert Scot "is yet so advanced in life that he cannot very long be expected to continue his labors." This was a low blow—Scot was 61 and two years Jefferson's junior. Patterson described Reich in the same letter as "an artist whose talents I presume you are not unacquainted" and reiterated Sansom's claim that Reich "is about to remove to Europe." The tag-team effort of Patterson and Sansom's letters, both penned on March 25, 1807, must have proved persuasive; according to Stewart Witham, Reich took his new post of assistant engraver on April 1—exactly one week later.

Joseph Sansom continued with his "Medallic History of the American Revolution" after Reich gained full time employment at the U.S. Mint with the medal presently offered, a specimen of which Jefferson received from Sansom on November 15, 1807. Sansom wrote to the President:

"Joseph Sansom, of Philadelphia, again presents his respects to the President of the United States, to inclose [sic] him a medal of Franklin. The head is supposed to be the best likeness extant; and the legend, as well as the device, can hardly fail to be interesting at the present crisis. J. S. begs leave at the same time to represent to the President's generosity, that the ingenious engraver is now employed at the Mint on a salary so small, that it is with difficulty he can keep his current expenses so low. He is actually that Officer of the Mint whose salary is the lowest, and it may be said, with modesty, that he is the one that works the hardest; for he applies himself to the perfection of the new coinage [Reich's Capped Bust design] with the enthusiasm of genius, rather than the perseverance of labor. Upon the merits of his design, and execution, J.S. will [lacuna] thing to so competent a judge; and he only presumes to [lacuna] it is not without the consent, and approbation, of the Director of the Establishment, and the Treasurer, that he ventures to hint, with submission, the wish to see his salary raised to the constitutional allowance of \$800 dollars a year for the Assistant Engraver."

Three days after Jefferson received his specimen of the Franklin-Sansom medal, and likewise received Sansom's plea for Reich appropriate remuneration that essentially made Sansom his agent, the President ably responded to both in a brief letter to Sansom dated November 18:

"Th[is] presents his compliments to Mr. Sansom and his thanks for the fine medal of Doctor Franklin he has been so kind to send him, in which he recognizes the masterly hand of Mr. Reich. It is a worthy companion of the one before made of General Washington."

Jefferson then continued to address the question of Reich's pay by passing the buck.

"No one is more sensible than himself of the merit of Mr. Reich, nor would be more desirous to serve him, but in the public employments there are certain rules which must be regularly pursued in order to keep out of our institutions a spirit of favoritism and partiality, equally injurious to the public and dangerous to real merit. There is too a regular course of taking up any particular case, which does not permit it to begin with the chief magistrate."

Reich's plea via Sansom was therefore sent to channels, and Reich was not mentioned by Sansom in his next letter the following month. Patterson's next letter to Jefferson on April 3 reported that Reich "is now preparing a new set of dies in which some improvements to the design will be introduced, adhering, however, strictly to the letter of the law, which it is hoped will meet with the public approbation."

Thus, the Sansom medals and Patterson and Sansom's communications with President Jefferson had a direct effect on Reich's hiring at the U.S. Mint and the rapid execution of the first major redesign of United States coinage in more than a decade.

Purchased privately.

Scarce White Metal “1776” Franklin-Sansom Medal



- 1051 Betts-546. “1776” (ca. 1807) Franklin-Sansom. White metal. About Uncirculated. Plain edge. Silver gray with bright white lustre predominant surrounding legends and devices. Spots of tin pest at RE of REPELLED on obverse and 6 of date on reverse noted, but the eye appeal and overall preservation of this specimen is truly superb. While Betts does not list any specimens in white metal, Greenslet estimates that 31 to 75 such specimens exist. Like the Franklin-Sansom medals in other compositions, this piece was struck at the Mint and displays the same reverse rim cud from 8:00 to 12:30 as the previous specimen in copper; this rim cud does appear to have been lightly filed under magnification. As we have previously noted, this work of Reich is an historic one not only for its subject matter but as an important keystone in Reich’s portfolio which led to his employment at the U.S. Mint.

Weight: 395.1 grains. Diameter: 40.5 mm.

Julian CM-8. Greenslet GM-80. Fuld FR.M.UN.1.

From Spink’s 38th sale, October 1984, Lot 870. Earlier the property of the Carnegie Museum of Natural History.

Lovely 1777 Franklin Medal Betts-547



- 1052 Betts-547. 1777 B. Franklin of Philadelphia. Copper. About Uncirculated. Plain edge. Mottled chocolate brown and mahogany with reflective surfaces and some vestiges of mint color remaining in protected areas. Old museum number “2” inked in right obverse field, now faded and scarcely noticeable. Some minor surface abrasions and a tiny rim nick at 7:00 on obverse noted. Very pleasing visual appeal. Struck at the Paris Mint, if not in 1777 then very close to it. With its plain edge and bold double striking to raise the appropriate detail, this medal has the texture of an 18th-century original. Greenslet estimates that fewer than 15 specimens survive in bronze; while this may overestimate the rarity of this piece, there are probably only 25 to 30 extant.

The obverse depicts Franklin in his printer’s cap with the legend B. FRANKLIN OF PHILADELPHIA L.L.D. & F.R.S., the ampersand is hand accomplished with three different punches. The L.L.D. of course refers to his honorary degrees noticed earlier, the F.R.S. refers to his inclusion as a Fellow of the Royal Society, a scholarly organization in London. The reverse shows a tree and lightning bolts with the legend NON IRRITA FULMINA CURAT or “He cares not for the ineffectual thunderbolt,” according to Betts. The date 1777 is below in the exergue. One of the most interesting and attractive of the early Franklin medals, whose rarity and superb preservation should arouse the interest of advanced collectors.

Weight: 619.8 grains. Diameter: 45.2 mm.

Greenslet GM-40. Fuld FR.M.NL.6.

Purchased from James King on July 6, 1970.

Exciting 1777 Franklin Plaque by Nini



1053 **Betts-548. 1777 Franklin by Nini. Terra cotta. Extremely Fine.** Holed at 12:00 on edge for suspension. Pale orange-brown with some remnants of glazing still apparent. Well preserved for the issue, with two minor chips missing from rim at 1:00 and 3:00 and some light verdigris, likely easily removed, in protected areas of the design. The reverse is blank, as are all of this issue, with a hole near 12:00 for wall hanging and a few spare nicks and pencil marks.

This popular medallion was ubiquitous in France during Franklin's day after its accomplishment by Jean Baptise Nini in 1777. Nini "was born at Urbino, Italy in 1717 ... [and] was noted for his skill as an engraver on glass, and his work in terra cotta," according to the editors of Betts. Franklin was an immensely popular figure in France during and after the Revolution, and his visage by Nini, after a portrait by Thomas Walpole, was used in a variety of manifestations. Franklin wrote his daughter on June 3, 1779, saying "The clay medalion of me you say you gave to Mr. Hopkinson was the first of the kind made in France. A variety of others have been made since of different sizes; some to be set in lids of small boxes, and some so small as to be worn in rings; and the numbers

sold are incredible. These, with the pictures, busts, and prints, (of which copies upon copies are spread every where) have made your father's face as well known as that of the moon, so that he durst not do any thing that would oblige him to run away, as his phiz would discover him wherever he should venture to show it. It is said by learned etymologists that the name Doll, for the images children play with, is derived from the word IDOL; from the number of dolls now made of him, he may truly be said, in that sense, to be i-doll-ized in this country." A modern comparison for the position enjoyed in late 1770s and 1780s France by this Nini plaque would be the familiar visage of John Kennedy that hung in a large percentage of American households in the mid 1960s. Yet, despite the massive marketing of Franklin's image to the adoring French public, few of these fragile plaques survive today, especially in this outstanding state of preservation. An important relic of one of the most beloved Americans of all time, one with which Franklin himself was familiar.

Weight: 2889.7 grains. Diameter: 112.6 mm.

Accession GM-5. Field FR.ME.NI.3.

Purchased from Richard Margolis on August 26, 1976.



- 1054 **Betts-551. 1775 Lord North. Silver. Very Fine.** Plain edge. Glossy pewter gray with bluish hues and lovely reverse toning in circles of gold, rose, and deep violet. Burnished long ago, still overly glossy from that process and with some surface dimpling apparent under magnification. This medal was struck by Oxford University to commemorate the election of Frederick North to the post of Chancellor of Oxford University in 1775. North's name brought forth vitriol from American colonists equal to or greater than that reserved for the most bitter invectives of King George himself, as it was North who, as lord of the treasury, pursued both the Stamp Act and Townshend duties (despite opposition from Pitt) and then became Prime Minister himself and served in that post for the duration of the American Revolution. This medal was struck on the eve of the Revolution while North was Prime Minister; it was used as an illustration of North in Lossing's *Pictorial Field-Book of the Revolution* and, as Laurence Brown related in *British Historical Medals*, was also used as an illustration in *A Pictorial History of England* by Crack and Macfarlen published in 1841. The medal is infrequently seen in American collections, and Betts knew of it only from its appearance in Lossing. This medal is an important contemporary representation of this central figure in the history of the Revolution and should be included in any collection of Revolutionary medals with a claim of completeness.

Weight: 308.8 grains. Diameter: 36.8 mm.

Frederick North, usually referred to as Lord North, was, like Washington, born in 1732 and rose to national acclaim at a young age. He first took his seat in the House of Commons at age 22, and by age 27 was a junior lord of the treasury. In this capacity, North served under the first lord of the treasury, Prime Minister George Grenville, whose Stamp Act was perhaps the first blatant wedge between England and her American colonies. In 1767, while the fallout from the Stamp Act was still heated, North rose to the post of chancellor of the Exchequer, replacing Charles Townshend whose famed revenue act resulted in nonimportation from Britain and the general consternation of London merchants whose livelihoods depended on the American trade. When North became first lord of the treasury and Prime Minister in 1770, he was persuaded to do away with all of the Townshend taxes except for the tax on tea, though according to Lossing "he utterly misapprehended the character of the American people, and could not perceive the justice of their claims."



Lord North

After North moved in the House of Commons to remove all taxes but that on tea, which coincidentally took place on the same day in 1770 as the Boston Massacre, he did little that would endear him to the colonists. His support of the 1773 Tea Act fomented further ill will in the colonies; this creative new source of revenue, meant to bail out the East India Company, led to the Boston Tea Party of 1773. North took Boston's indignation personally and spearheaded the Boston Port Act of 1774, which forbade all manner of "landing, discharging, and shipping of wares and merchandise at Boston, or within the harbor thereof." Other "Intolerable Acts" followed soon thereafter which isolated Boston for punishment and united the American colonies behind their persecuted New England brethren.

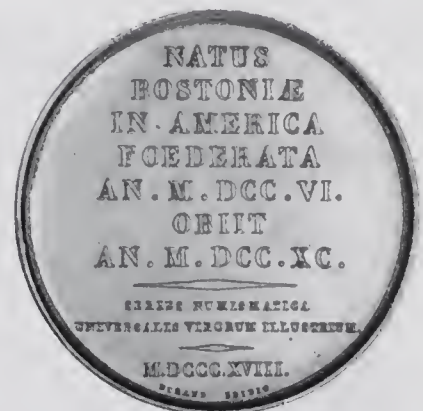
The year the present medal was struck, 1775, saw Lord North ban trade with the colonies and authorize martial law throughout America. North would try to resign his post as Prime Minister three times over the next half dozen years, recognizing that his forte was finance, not military strategy. George III would not accept it, until mounting pressures against North after the colonies had already been lost allowed him to finally leave his post in 1782. His reputation in England had, by that point, suffered almost as much as it had in America. North died, blind and roundly detested, in 1792.

Purchased from John J. Ford, Jr. on August 6, 1971.

- 1055 **Betts-551. 1775 Lord North. Copper. Choice About Uncirculated.** Plain edge. Lovely medium chocolate brown with faded mint color in the reflective fields and mint red in protected areas of the design. Very appealing visually with only the lightest indication of cabinet friction on the high points and a tiny nick on North's jaw noted for future identification. According to *BHM*, this medal is actually scarcer in copper than it is in silver, and the present specimen is nearly unimprovable. A most attractive and immaculately preserved specimen of this important medal.

Weight: 378.3 grains. Diameter: 37.0 mm.

Purchased privately.

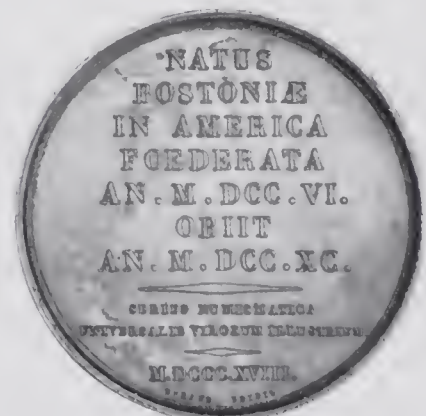
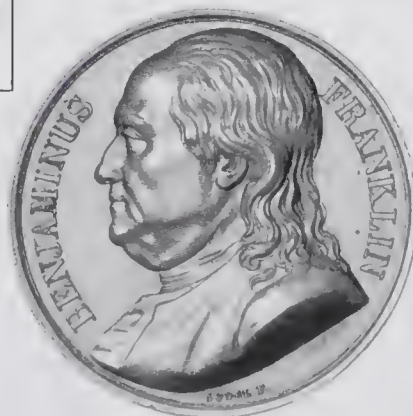


- 1056 **Betts-unlisted. 1818 Franklin Series Numismatica. Copper. Mint State.** Plain edge. Splendid rich chocolate brown with faded mint color in the heavily reflective fields. Choice eye appeal with only some reverse flyspecks worthy of note. While not listed in Betts, this medal and the two that follow it are frequently included in collections of early medals of Franklin. This piece was struck in France in 1818 as part of Durand's Series Numismatica, a popular series of medals that included George Washington and James Cook, among others. A popular Franklin association piece and very attractive portrait.

Weight: 594.3 grains. Diameter: 40.8 mm.

Greenslet GM-42. Fuld FR.MSE.1.

Purchased from James King.



- 1057 **Betts-unlisted. 1818 Franklin Series Numismatica. Bronze. About Uncirculated.** Lettered edge: MONACHII. Glossy rich mahogany. A speck of verdigris is visible in Franklin's curls, but the eye appeal is excellent for the issue. This Franklin medal, also part of the Series Numismatica, was struck in Germany with a similar but distinct obverse portrait. A nice specimen of the issue.

Weight: 591.3 grains. Diameter: 41.1 mm.

Greenslet GM-43. Fuld FR.MSE.2

Purchased from Richard Margolis on March 13, 1971.



1058 Betts-unlisted. 1833 Franklin and Montyon. Copper. Choice About Uncirculated. Plain edge. Fading mint color in hues of rose and pale violet dominates medium brown surfaces. Tiny

rim nick at 3:30 on obverse noted, but simply superb eye appeal. Struck by a French philanthropic organization whose purpose was awarding medals to useful men in the spirit of Franklin and Montyon, this medal calls Franklin "a benefactor of genius" and Montyon "a genius of benefaction." A fascinating souvenir of the continuing appreciation of Franklin by the French people nearly a half-century after his death, in a much finer state of preservation than typically seen.

Weight: 532.7 grains. Diameter: 42.0 mm.

Greenslet GM-53. Fuld FR.M.SO.3.

Jean-Baptiste-Antoine Auger de Montyon (1733-1820) was a man of letters and philanthropist who established two prizes to be awarded by the French Academy, one for a literary work of "high moral character" and another to be awarded to a person of modest means who performed a notable good deed.

Purchased privately.

Important 1777 Battle of Germantown Medal

A Silver Rarity



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

1059 Betts-556. 1777 Germantown. Silver. Choice Extremely Fine. Plain edge. Holed for suspension at 12:00. Deep pewter gray on the obverse, silver gray with blue and pale gold highlights on the reflective reverse. A rim nick at 1:00 on obverse is tiny and positively inconsequential; we note a downward diagonal scratch below 1777 on the reverse for future identification. A dig on the edge at 11:00 is not visible from obverse or reverse. Some tiny remnants of earthen encrustation in the fine details of the obverse design are present. The eye appeal is superb and all minute design elements are bold.

The 1777 Germantown medal is one of the most significant and well-known of all medals in the Betts series. It has the unique distinction of being a decoration issued for an action of the American Revolution by the losing side, but



A map of the scene of the Battle of Germantown. Cliveden or "Chew's House" is shown near the center.

was representative of an action in which the issuing regiment took so much pride that it became their standard medal of valor for nearly a century. The medal depicts the attack on Cliveden, the Chew House, in the Battle of Germantown on the obverse to an impressive degree of historical accuracy, with the signature of engraver John Milton in the exergue below. Milton served as assistant engraver of the Royal Mint from 1789 to 1798, and the dies for this medal were probably accomplished either during or just before his tenure there; some references have suggested 1785 as the date this medal was first struck and we do not dispute the accuracy of this educated guess. Considering the long life of these dies and their excellent maintenance, the Royal Mint was almost certainly the minting venue for the Germantown

medal. The reverse simply identified the battle shown on the obverse as GERMAN / TOWN / OCTr 4 1777. The British soldiers present at Cliveden on that day were members of the 40th Regiment of Foot, an infantry group which had been present at the Battle of Long Island, the Battle of Princeton, and the Paoli Massacre just two weeks before their arrival at Cliveden. At Paoli, outside Philadelphia, under cover of darkness, British forces including many of the members of the 40th Foot killed and wounded over 200 Americans and took 71 prisoners, a memory fresh in the mind of the American troops who would meet them again on October 4. Cliveden, the house depicted on the medal's obverse, was owned by Benjamin Chew, the Chief Justice of Pennsylvania. (Interestingly, his daughter Peggy married Major John Eager Howard, a Marylander who was present at the battle and would later be the recipient of a medal struck in his honor for the Battle of Cowpens.) Cliveden was located about a mile north of the main British camp at Germantown that was the target for George Washington's planned attack, a part of the scheme to liberate Philadelphia after its capture by Sir William Howe and Lord Cornwallis on September 26. On the foggy morning of October 4th, Washington's army and staff such as Alexander Hamilton, Henry Knox, Timothy Pickering, and Anthony Wayne marched towards General William Howe's camp in Germantown. Upon meeting the first British pickets north of Cliveden, the battle commenced, and members of the British Second Light Infantry retreated towards Cliveden, where the 40th Foot was stationed and found protection in Chew's mansion. Much of the American force, including the troops under General Wayne, bypassed Cliveden on their way south to Germantown. The Americans who remained behind found themselves under fire from the 40th Foot fortified inside the house, and a raging battle as depicted on the medal continued through mid-morning when the American forces finally retreated.



The medal clearly shows the facts of the battle: British forces firing on Americans outside from nearly every window of the house, two artillery pieces firing on the house, heavy fog that mingled with smoke and hung heavy that morning, Benjamin Chew's lawn statuary tipped over in the yard, the front doors broken in by cannon fire, and even a failed attempt at carrying a flag of truce to the door of the mansion. After the attack at Cliveden was over, four British troops who had been inside the house had lost their lives and 32 additional troops had been wounded; the British suffered a loss of 519 men during the Battle of Germantown overall. The Americans suffered much heavier losses, with 152 killed, over 500 wounded, and 400 more listed as missing from the action at Cliveden. The 40th Foot were justifiably proud of the testicular fortitude they showed in the face of the staunch American attack at Cliveden, though General Burgoyne's surrender to the Americans at Saratoga two weeks later would have a much greater effect than the heavy losses at Cliveden. A British officer present at the battle later stated "To do [the Americans] justice, they attacked with great intrepidity, but were received with no less

firmness."

Since the 40th Foot used their prized victory as a decoration for nearly a century, the technical aspects of this piece are important to help identify when it was struck. The latest recorded delivery of a Germantown medal took place in 1881, when Sir Canliffe Owens offered Samuel Chew III a specimen as a gift. The 40th Foot had ceased to exist by this point, since it combined with the 82nd Foot to create the South Lancashire Regiment in 1881. According to historian Thomas McGuire, whose monograph *The Surprise of Germantown* offers an excellent history of the events at Cliveden, "a meritorious conduct medal was struck not long after the battle which commemorated the valor of the 40th Regiment at Cliveden. British army histories

list this award as one of the earliest examples, if not the first example, of British battle medals. The enlisted men were issued medals of bronze while officers received silver medals mounted on a blue ribbon to be worn suspended around the neck." The present specimen is holed somewhat crudely from obverse to reverse. This, in concert with the fact that the obverse is toned more darkly and appears less lustrous than the reverse, suggests it was worn and displayed. The medal shows striking characteristics typical of late 18th and early 19th-century medals, such as a collaring mark which is apparent near 6:00 and clear double striking around the bold reverse lettering. The copper specimen in

the following lot shows neither of these characteristics. Likewise, this example is struck from an early die state, without the obverse rim cud near 9:00 apparent on the copper specimen to follow. Because of these factors, it is evident that this is an early striking of the Battle of Germantown medal and probably dates from the 1778 to 1810 period, after which time collaring marks are atypical. As an early striking of this medal, and perhaps even one of the original silver striking awarded to officers present at Cliveden on October 4, 1777, this medal is of unforgettable import to collectors of medals of the American Revolution and represents one of the highlight rarities of the LaRiviere Collection.

Weight: 424.9 grains. Diameter: 44.5 mm.

We are grateful to Thomas McGuire for his assistance with information on this medal and the Battle of Germantown.

The commanding officer of the 40th Foot, Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas Musgrave "considered the Battle of Germantown his greatest triumph," according to McGuire and is considered by most to be the party responsible for the commissioning of the Battle of Germantown medal. While other possibilities exist, little documentation is currently known. Future research will undoubtedly reveal more information about the medal and perhaps even tell the whole story.

Among the officers of the 40th Foot was a commander of grenadiers named John Graves Simcoe, who was stationed at Philadelphia with the rest of the British grenadier corps. Then a captain, Simcoe would become the first governor of Upper Canada after the war and would be responsible for the so-called "Simcoe" peace medals of 1794 and the Copper Company of Upper Canada tokens issued the same year.

From Presidential Coin and Antique Company's sale of March 1976, Lot 1430. Earlier from the University of Hartford and the J. Doyle DeWitt Collection.

Rare Germantown Medal in Copper



1060 Betts-556. 1777 Germantown. Copper. About Uncirculated. Plain edge. Holed for suspension at 12:00. Medium chocolate brown intermingled with rich mint red surrounding all devices and legends. Rims lightly filed, probably at or near time of striking. A hint of verdigris noted at left end of exergual line. Visually pleasing and very nicely preserved.

As discussed in the previous lot description, the Germantown medals were struck over a nearly century long period as awards of merit for members of the British 40th Regiment of Foot, the regulars who defended Cliveden on October 4, 1777. This piece was struck after the previous silver specimen, perhaps in the mid to late 19th century. There is a rim cud present on this specimen that the silver specimen lacks, which extends from just below the fence rail at 9:00 on the obverse up to the upper fence rail and smoke clouds at 9:30 on the rim. Also, this piece texturally appears to be of later manufacture. It was fully struck with one blow, indicating a stronger and more sophisticated coining press, and does not bear the "collaring mark" present on most medals struck at the turn of the 19th century. We conjecture that this piece was struck circa 1840 to 1880, and was awarded and worn as a decoration of valor to an enlisted soldier of the 40th Foot. The last specimen known to be awarded was given to a descendent of Benjamin Chew, who owned the mansion Cliveden, in 1884. That specimen was unholed. The present example is a very important and rare medal, one that appears at auction infrequently at best, and one of the most avidly sought medals in the Betts series. Advanced collectors and specialists in numismatic relics of the Revolutionary period would be wise to realize the importance of this opportunity.

Weight: 435.6 grains. Diameter: 44.6 mm.

The editors of Betts make note that a copper specimen of this medal sold in Lyman Low's sale of the Balmain Collection in 1885 for \$18.25, a huge sum for a medal at the time.

From Spink's sale of July 1988, Lot 320.



Benjamin Chew's mansion, Cliveden, at Germantown.



1061 As Betts-556. 1777 Germantown copy. Silver. Mint State. Modern copy from new dies. Lustrous white surfaces with matte appearance. A nice substitute for the real article, faithful but not deceptive.

Weight: 879.6 grains. Diameter: 51.0 mm.

Given by John W. Adams on August 17, 1998.

Choice 1777 Gates at Saratoga Medal Copper Striking from Original Dies



1062 Betts-557. 1777 Gates at Saratoga. Copper. Choice Mint State. Plain edge. Rich mahogany and medium chocolate

brown with hints of golden lustre clinging to protected areas of the legend. A simply beautiful specimen of this medal, choice in every respect and probably unimproveable. Reverse rim cuds filed, as is often seen on medals of this period which show such die breaks. This lovely specimen was struck from the original dies, which were executed in Paris by Nicholas Gatteaux between 1785 and 1787 and relocated to the U.S. Mint after March 1801 by Aaron Burr.

While precisely dating this specimen is difficult, it was probably struck at the Philadelphia Mint, as evidenced by the advanced state of the reverse rim breaks. The obverse of this medal depicts Gates to left with legends HORATIO GATES DUCI STRENUO COMITIA AMERICANA or "The American Congress to Horatio Gates, the valiant Commander." The reverse shows General Sir John Burgoyne gentlemanly turning over his sword to the victorious Gates with their armies behind and the legend SALUS REGIONUM SEPTENTRIONAL HOSTE AD SARATOGAM IN DEDITION ACCEPTO or "The safety of the northern regions secured by the surrender of the enemy received at Saratoga" and the date, October 17, 1777. Specimens of this important and beautiful medal from the original dies are avidly sought, and the present specimen is of unsurpassable quality.

Weight: 1359.8 grains. Diameter: 55.5 mm.

Julian MI-2.

Alan Stahl and the American Numismatic Society published a very useful list of medals of the *Comitia Americana* series in the collections of the ANS and selected other museums as part of their 1995 Coinage of the Americas Conference on coinage of the American Confederation period. In that list, this variety is included as number 34. Other *Comitia Americana* medals included in this catalogue will be attributed to Stahl numbers in reference to this publication.

It is worth noting what exactly the term "Comitia Americana" means. This Latin translation of "American Congress" is used to refer to a series of 11 medals relative to the American Revolution authorized by Congress between 1776 and 1787. Most were delivered well after the Treaty of Paris in 1783, and all except one were accomplished in France by leading artists of the period. Most of the medals were restruck from the original dies in Philadelphia in the early 19th century, and in many cases copy dies were also produced near the end of that century. Stahl's study enumerates the medals and describes each. Those interested in the series are also recommended to read John W. Adams' article "Back to Medal Collecting" published in the ANA Centennial Anthology.

The Continental Congress authorized the Gates medal on Tuesday, November 4 1777 with the following words:

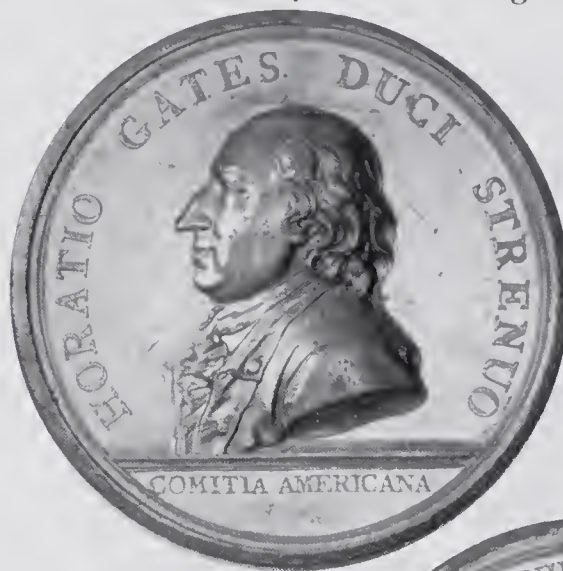
"Resolved, That the thanks of Congress, in their own name, and in behalf of the inhabitants of the thirteen United States, be presented to Major-General Gates, commander-in-chief in the northern department, and to Major-Generals Lincoln and Arnold, and the rest of the officers and troops under his command, for their brave and successful efforts in support of the independence of their country, whereby an army of the enemy, of ten thousand men, has been totally defeated; one large detachment of it, strongly posted and intrenched, having been conquered at Bennington; another repulsed with loss and disgrace from Fort Schuyler; and the main army of six thousand men, under Lieutenant-General Burgoyne, after being beaten in different actions, and driven from a formidable post and strong intrenchments, reduced to the necessity of surrendering themselves upon terms honourable and advantageous to these States, on the 17th day of October last, to Major-General Gates; and that a medal of gold be struck, under the direction of the Board of War, in commemoration of this great event, and in the name of these United States presented by the President to Major-General Gates."

Gates would not receive his medal for nearly a decade after, and in the intermediate period would see much criticism and a fall from grace, especially after his loss at Camden in 1780.

Purchased from New Netherlands Coin Company in January 1969.

White Metal Gates at Saratoga Medal

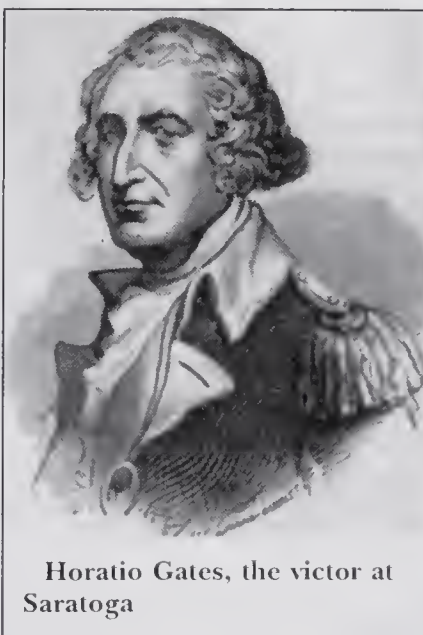
Early State of Original Dies



1063 Betts-557. 1777 Gates at Saratoga. White metal. About Uncirculated. Plain edge. Bright silver gray with heavily reflective surfaces. Some surface scuffs and abrasions, typical of pieces struck in this metal, but very attractive and lustrous. Some light rim bruises visible from the reverse. Struck from a relatively early state of the dies and clearly double struck, so probably produced in the epoch before 1835 or so. The only rim cud visible is the one seen on the reverse rim at 7:30, which is also visible on the earliest originals struck at the Paris Mint. According to Julian, at the time that the dies were deposited at the Mint in 1801, "Adam Eckfeldt had struck twelve silver and 'a number of tin' medals for the family." Undoubtedly many were made in white metal during this period, and the present specimen may have been among their number or struck in the decade or two that followed. A splendid specimen of this important early Mint medal.

Weight: 1050.3 grains. Diameter: 55.7 mm.
Julian MI-2. As Stahl 34, though differing in composition and die state.

Purchased privately.



Horatio Gates, the victor at Saratoga

Lovely U.S. Mint Gates Restrike

Mintage: 76 Pieces



- 1064 Betts-557. "1777" (ca. 1885) Gates at Saratoga. Copper. Choice Mint State. Plain edge. Beautiful light chocolate brown fields contrast with darker chocolate brown and mahogany devices. Impressively preserved with premium eye appeal and no problems worthy of note. This variety was coined from the original Paris obverse die and a replacement reverse die accomplished by William Barber after 1885. The new reverse may be discerned by the more modern typeface of the legends and its lack of a die flaw near 3:00. According to the cataloguer of the NASCA Kessler-Spangenberg sale, one of the most important reference catalogues for American medals, only 76 specimens were struck in copper from these dies. Many years saw fewer than five pieces coined from these dies, and this variety remains an important and sought-after rarity in the Mint medal and Comitia Americana series.

Weight: 1178.2 grains. Diameter: 55.7 mm.

Julian MI-2. Stahl 35.

From NASCA's sale of July 1981, Lot 37.



- 1065 Betts-558. 1777 France Prepares to Aid America. Silver. Choice Extremely Fine. Reeded edge. Very attractive silver gray with highlights of pale gold and bright blue and warm reflective lustre at the peripheries. Struck on a slightly out of round planchet with dies aligned in coin rotation rather than typical medal rotation. This jeton was struck in France by the political body responsible for war execution and expenses, the

extraordinaire des guerres. Its reverse legend *PACEM ARMA TUENTUR* translates to "Arms preserve peace," which has been interpreted to be a reference to the war between England and her colonies. This is far from a certainty, as this jeton may be a more standard issue with no particular event in mind. On the other hand, French military operations were already heavily involved in the American effort by 1777 and the official alliance was all but assured by late that year. The French minister of foreign affairs, Charles Gravier de Vergennes, heard of the success at Saratoga in December 1777, at which point the alliance was all but sealed and Vergennes had the approval of Louis XVI to formally ally with the Americans. This medalet could certainly refer to that approval, or could merely speak to the atmosphere of preparation in the French military establishment during 1777. An attractive specimen of this historic issue.

Weight: 109.1 grains. Diameter: 28.4 mm.

The French had always supported the American cause, as the "peace" which followed the Seven Years War had given England the advantage in the balance of power and dominance over world trade. The French sought remedy to both of these situations, and found the American Revolution would help on both fronts. As early as fall 1775, the French agent Achard de Bonvouloir was in Philadelphia talking to the Continental Congress, and Vergennes had secured a promise of loans for the Americans from the king. A year later, the Congress accepted the draft of a treaty with the French authored by John Adams, and by December 1776 both Silas Deane and Benjamin Franklin were in France representing America's interests. These actions saw a contemporaneous rise in French officers serving as volunteers in the Continental Army. The most famous among them, the Marquis de Lafayette, arrived in South Carolina in June 1777 and served at Brandywine in September 1777. After reconciliation terms with the British were refused in January 1778, the French went ahead with an official alliance with the Americans. These treaties dictated an official commercial relationship, a wartime alliance, and the ability of Spain to enter into the treaties as well. In March 1778, France notified England that they had recognized the independence of the United States. England promptly declared war on them four days later and France became a full-fledged combatant in the American Revolution.

Purchased from New Netherlands Coin Company on July 10, 1969.



- 1066 Betts-560. 1778 German Blessings of Peace. White metal. Fine. Plain edge. Dark pewter gray with some lighter highlights. Some abrasions and scuffs at the rims, but attractive for the grade. Struck in Germany in 1778 to comment upon the state of warfare that existed over much of the globe at the time, including the American Revolution. The obverse legends are translated by Betts as "Consider the balance, it brings each day joy or trouble." The obverse depicts a balance holding swords and olive branches hanging over a globe which reads *AMERICA EUROPA ASIA AFRICA*. Various armaments and flags are shown in the background. The reverse legends recommend the benefits of peace over world war with the date 1778. An interesting contemporary reference to the American Revolution from Germany.

Weight: 277.1 grains. Diameter: 38.3 mm.

This piece and the one that follows each have a small copper circle imbedded in the planchet near the exergual line. The placement is nearly identical and is probably not coincidental; its purpose is not known.

Purchased from John J. Ford, Jr. on August 11, 1971.

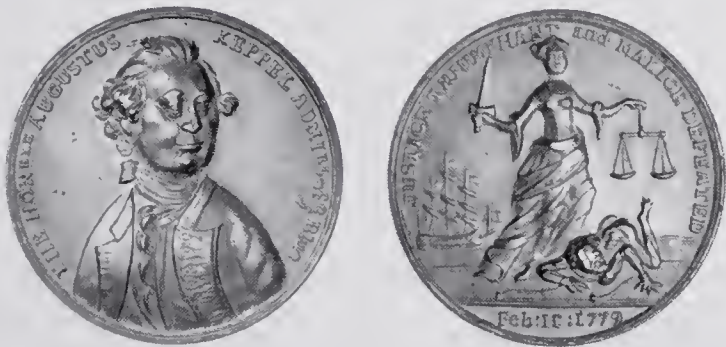


- 1067 As Betts-560. 1793 German Blessing of Peace. White metal. Choice About Uncirculated.** Plain edge. Bright lustrous silver gray. Excellent sharpness and eye appeal, with good detail on the globe. Old cursive letter H still barely visible in ink in right obverse field. This variety of Betts-560 uses the same obverse and reverse dies as that noted in Betts, but the reverse die has been modified to show the date 1793 instead of 1778. Some vestiges of the 78 are still visible from incomplete lapping. While this medal makes reference to America, its date of 1793 places it during the time of the Convention in France, whose execution of Louis XVI in January 1793 helped unite all of France against them. George Washington declared the United States officially neutral in the conflict in April 1793. This medal is an interesting relative of Betts-560 and is interesting in light of the next revolution that would radically alter the world's political landscape.

Weight: 365.4 grains. Diameter: 38.3 mm.

As mentioned in the previous lot, this specimen has a small coppery spot imbedded in the planchet near the reverse exergue line.

Purchased from Hank Spangenberg.



- 1068 Betts-564. 1779 Keppel Vindicated. Brass. Choice Extremely Fine.** Plain edge. Dark yellow and olive with brassy highlights on glossy surfaces. The eye appeal is excellent and all details are bold, though we note two tiny planchet depressions on the reverse that appear to have been lacquered long ago. This medal celebrates one of the sensational media circuses of the period, the court-martial and vindication of Admiral Augustus Keppel for his actions against the French fleet off Ushant in 1778. According to historian John Crossland, "the charges brought to the boil the simmering national discontent over the war against America in its battle for independence and the Tory ministry." Keppel was named admiral of the blue and commander-in-chief of the Grand Fleet in 1778 during the American Revolution, after the French had already recognized American independence and had thus become a combatant against Great Britain. Keppel had not served actively in the Royal Navy since the Seven Years War, which had enriched him greatly following his participation in the capture of Havana.

Nine days after the French recognized the United States in March 1778, Keppel took to the high seas commanding 23 ships. Keppel and his fleet sighted the French fleet in late July off their home port of Brest. The rear of the British fleet saw heavy damage, bringing charges of negligence against both Keppel and rear divisional commander Sir Hugh Palliser, whose political views set him in diametrical opposition to the Whig Keppel. Their relationship aroused suspicions of infigh-

ing and their court-martial begat a national quarrel. Even King George III called it "a strange-managed dispute." On February 11, 1779, the date commemorated on the medal, the court found that the charges were "malicious and ill-founded." Keppel was vindicated. Though Palliser was later acquitted in a court martial, a drunken mob "properly disposed by plenty of strong beer distributed gratis at a certain great house" burnt his house to the ground a few days after Keppel's trial ended. Keppel was rewarded richly in the court of public opinion, with a victory column erected in his honor and this series of medals struck to commemorate his acquittal. The piece depicts Keppel on the obverse with his titles, while the reverse shows Justice standing superior to Malice with the legend "Justice Triumphant and Malice Defeated" and the date of Keppel's acquittal in the exergue. This medal, referential to an important naval battle of the American Revolution, is infrequently offered in America, and the present specimen is a superb example of the type.

Weight: 240.9 grains. Diameter: 33.9 mm.

Purchased from Ted Craig on April 7, 1971.



- 1069 Betts-unlisted. BHM-214. 1779 Keppel. Copper. Choice About Uncirculated.** Plain edge. Rich deep tan and light brown mingle on glossy surfaces. Very appealing and attractive, with only a shallow cut on the rim at 11:00 worthy of note. This medal, while undated, was most likely struck in the wake of the Keppel-Palliser affair discussed with the previous lot. The military action off Ushant itself in July 1778 was indecisive and is an unlikely inspiration for calling Keppel "judicious, brave, and gallant," though his successful handling of the court-martial and the restoration of his reputation may well have provoked such sentiments. Additionally, this medal is nearly identical in style and design to the 1779 medals commemorating Captain James Cook, especially the Courage and Perseverance medal, Betts-555, which shares an obverse die with Betts-554. It is likely they were accomplished by the same hand at nearly the same time. Although this variety is not listed by Betts, it refers to the same event as Betts-564 and is worthy of inclusion in any collection of American reference medals.

Weight: 377.5 grains. Diameter: 40.2 mm.

The event commemorated by this and the previous lot, the acquittal of Augustus Keppel by a court martial on February 11, 1779, happened at almost the exact same time as the execution of Captain James Cook at the hands of Hawaiian natives on February 14. The news from Hawaii, which traveled overland via Russia, obviously reached the English press much later than the Keppel verdict. Because of this, it may be true that the Keppel medal was actually struck before the nearly identical Cook medal. Keppel inspired more different types of medals for a mass market audience than Cook, and, judging from their relative rarity today, larger quantities of Keppel medals were produced and sold at the time to the interested English public.

Purchased privately.

Choice Wayne at Stony Point Medal

U.S. Mint "Restrike"



1070 Betts-565. "1779" Wayne at Stony Point. Striking from 1887 dies. Copper. Choice Mint State. Plain edge. Lustrous mahogany bronze and light brown with much reflectivity remaining. Choice appearance with two tiny spots near 12:00 on the reverse noted for future identification. Wayne medals struck from the original dies are among the rarest of the entire Comitia Americana series, indeed, less than a half a dozen specimens are traced.

Copy dies were produced in the late 1880s at the Philadelphia Mint by Charles Barber from the Wayne specimen. The copy dies, as seen on this specimen, have a decidedly modern typeface and should not be confused with those from the original dies. The space between XV and JUL on the reverse, present on only the copies, is an easy attribution point. According to records reprinted in Bob Julian's landmark work on U.S. Mint medals, only 47 specimens were struck from these dies in copper before 1904. As such, even examples from copy dies of the Wayne at Stony Point medal are very rare and eagerly sought after.

The original dies were designed and accomplished by Nicolas Marie Gatteaux at the Paris Mint around 1789. Wayne received his gold specimen in 1790. The obverse shows the goddess America awarding Wayne a wreath and crown of victory with the legend ANTONIO WAYNE DUCI EXERCITUS or "To Anthony Wayne, general of the army."

The reverse shows the fort on Stony Point with troops approaching from three sides and cannons at the right, with the legend STONEY-POINT EXPUGNATUM or "Stony Point stormed" with the date of the battle below in the exergue. It is important to note that since restrikes were never made from the original dies, this U.S. Mint copy is the only type of the Wayne at Stony Point medal most can ever hope to own. For those who seek to complete a collection of the Comitia Americana series, or for those captivated by the story of this important and impressive battle, this medal is a superb specimen of the only collectible variety of this issue and worthy of a premium bid.

Weight: 1086.7 grains. Diameter: 53.2 mm.

Stahl 38.

It is often said that the victors write history. Following this tradition, we hereby allow General Anthony Wayne to describe the success at Stony Point himself, as he wrote to General George Washington after the battle.

"Stony Point,

"July 17, 1779

"SIR,

"I have the honour of giving you a full and particular relation of the reduction of this point, by the light infantry under my command.

"On the 15th instant at 12 o'clock, we took up our line of march, from Sandy beach, distant 14 miles from this place. The road being exceedingly bad and narrow, and having to pass over high mountains, through deep morasses and difficult defiles, we were obliged to move in single defile the greatest part of the way. At eight o'clock in the evening, the van arrived at Mr. Springsteel's, within one and a half miles of the enemy, and formed into columns as fast as they came up, agreeable to the order of battle annexed; viz. Col. Febiger's and Meig's regiments, with Major Hull's detachment, formed the right column; Col. Butler's regiment and Major Murfree's two companies, the left. The troops remained in this position until several of the principal officers, with myself, had returned from reconnoitering the works. Half after 11 o'clock, being the time fixed upon, the whole moved forward, the van of the right consisting of 150 volunteers, properly officered, who advanced, with unloaded musquets, and fixed bayonets, under the command of Lieut. Col. Fleury; these were preceded by twenty picked men and a vigilant and brave officer, to remove the abbatis and other obstructions. The van of the left, consisting of 100 volunteers, under the command of Major Steward, with unloaded musquets and fixed bayonets, also preceded by a brave and determined officer, with twenty men, for the same purpose as the other.



"At twelve o'clock the assault was to begin on the right and left flanks of the enemy's works, while Major Murfree amused them in front; but a dead morass covering their whole front, and at this time overflowed by the tide, together with other obstructions, rendered the approaches more difficult than were at first apprehended, so that it was about 20 minutes after twelve before the assault began, previous to which I placed myself at the head of Febiger's regiment, of eight columns, and gave the troops the most pointed orders not to fire upon any account, but place their dependence on the bayonet, which order was faithfully obeyed. —Neither the deep morass, the formidable and double rows of abbatis, or the strong works in front and flank, could damp the ardour of the troops, who in the face of most tremendous and incessant fire of musquetry, and from cannon loaded with grape-shot, forced their way at the point of the bayonet, through every obstacle, both columns meeting in the center of the enemy's works, nearly at the same instant.

"Your excellency's most
"obedient and humble servant,
"ANTHONY WAYNE"

Purchased privately.



Above: "Mad Anthony" Wayne, who led the storming of the British fort at Stony Point. Below: A map of the Hudson River at Stony Point

Important 1779 DeFleury at Stony Point Medal

Very Rare
Copper



1071 Betts-566. 1779 DeFleury at Stony Point. Copper. Extremely Fine. Plain edge. Robust deep chocolate brown and ebony. The obverse is glossy and retains some natural reflectivity in the smooth fields, the reverse tends towards glossy ebony with vestiges of an old lacquering apparent. The eye appeal is very good overall, though we note a dig on the obverse rim at 5:00 and an ancient scratch in the right obverse field.

The DeFleury at Stony Point medal is one of the classic early American medals. Its exceptional rarity and beautiful design make it stand out among this medallion series filled with attractive rarities. The obverse depicts Lieutenant Colonel Francois Louis Tessiedre DeFleury as a Roman legionary standing on the captured battle flag and holding his short sword aloft standing among the ruins of the Stony Point fort with the legend *VIRTUTIS ET AUDACIAE MONUM. ET PRÆMIUM* or "To valor and bravery, a monument." The exergue legend reads *D. DE FLEURY EQUITI GALLO / PRIMO SUPER MUROS / RESP. AMERIC. D.D.* or "To DeFleury, officer of France, first to mount the walls, the Republic of America gave this gift." French engraver Pierre Simon DuVivier designed the medal and signed on the obverse. The reverse shows an aerial view of the fort at Stony Point, the rocky promontory on which the fort was built, and several ships in the Hudson. The legend reads *AGGERES PALUDES HOSTES VICTI* or "Fortifications, marshes, and enemies overcome" with the name of the battle and its date in the exergue. DeFleury, a 30 year-old French citizen, was placed at the head of Wayne's column and became the first American soldier to enter the fortress at Stony Point "and struck the British standard with his own hands," according to Benson Lossing. By doing so, he became a hero to an army and people that had not tasted victory in nearly two years and was thus richly rewarded by Congress. This medal is a monument to his hope-provoking actions and now legendary valor. Numismatists, as stewards of tangible American history, will realize the importance of the present offering and will undoubtedly compete feverishly to be the next owner of this remarkable artifact.

Weight: 615.0 grains. Diameter: 45.7 mm.

Stahl 39, but copper.

For a complete description of the actions at Stony Point, readers are directed to the description of an original DeFleury medal in silver in our sale of the Harry W. Bass, Jr. collection, Part I, in May 1999.

This medal, like all in the Comitia Americana series, were authorized by the Continental Congress. The following contemporary letter written by a

member of that body elucidates the excitement surrounding the action at Stony Point and why three medals were authorized in celebration of it.

"The annals of the war, tho' perhaps they may contain a more important, will not transmit to posterity a more brilliant action than the reduction of Stony Point, which was effected on the 15th instant, under the command of General Wayne. The fort, scarcely more accessible by nature than Quebec itself, was rendered more difficult of approach by abatis, and other military obstructions. If the ardor of the assailants could have been damped by human means, the deep morass and strong works in front and flank, which they had to pass and subdue, would have furnished a reasonable excuse. But volunteers alone being admitted into this dangerous enterprise, they marched up with firmness in the face of a galling fire of musquetry and a twenty-four pounder, loaded with grape-shot. The business was done by the bayonet only: altho' the for[ward] party, which was sent to amuse the garrison, was directed to keep up an incessant fire, the two columns, to whom the real attack was assigned, mastered the works without a single discharge of their pieces [cataloguer's note: their muskets were unloaded to avoid any distracting shots being fired]. What could veterans do more, than to put their whole confidence in cold steel?"

Edmund Randolph, Virginia delegate to the Continental Congress and former aide-de-camp to General Washington, to Governor Thomas Jefferson on July 27, 1779.

The Army Engineer Association to this day presents DeFleury medals "to a distinguished American with a military or civilian career of exceptionally significant and outstanding support and service to the U.S." It is interesting to note that DeFleury, whose actions in battle were made well known to Washington and were witnessed by Henry Knox, was rewarded by those two men with membership in the Society of the Cincinnati on January 1, 1789. The Society of the Cincinnati was Remarkably, DeFleury's Society of the Cincinnati diploma and badge still exist and were sold at auction in the 1990s by a firm without mention of DeFleury's actions at Stony Point or his status as a recipient of medal by the Continental Congress.

The third and final medal awarded for actions at Stony Point was given to Major John Stewart, who commanded the column opposite that of Wayne and DeFleury. Only one specimen of the medal (Betts-567) is known today, the silver example given to General Washington by Thomas Jefferson and now entrusted to the Massachusetts Historical Society. As such, even casts of this medal are quite valuable and it is considered uncollectible by enthusiasts in the series.

Purchased from John J. Ford, Jr.



1072 Betts-566. "1779" DeFleury at Stony Point. Striking from 1880 dies. Copper. Choice Mint State. Plain edge. Choice dark mahogany with glossy lustrous surfaces. Very attractive and well cared for in collectors' hands since the time of its mintage, with only a tiny scratch in the left field noted under magnification. Like the Wayne at Stony Point medal, the dies for the DeFleury at Stony Point medal were lost at an early date. Copy dies were produced at the Philadelphia Mint in 1880, as noted on the medal, and a tiny mintage of 47 pieces in copper were produced from those new dies. Julian relates that the dies were created after Superintendent A. Loudon Snowden borrowed an original DeFleury at Stony Point medal from Robert L. Stuart of New York in March 1880; his original piece was returned with a new restrike just three months later.

While original DeFleury at Stony Point medals are great rarities, the present variety is also a very rare item. It was lacking from the landmark Kessler-Spangenberg sale of 1981 and appears at auction infrequently at best. This specimen is of the highest quality and will undoubtedly attract the attention of

both Betts medal and Mint medal collectors.

Weight: 943.5 grains. Diameter: 45.9 mm.

Robert L. Stuart's name is little known today, though he was an enthusiastic part of a very small numismatic community before the Civil War. According to Dave Bowers' *American Numismatics Before the Civil War*, Stuart was a bidder in two auctions conducted in 1859 by Augustus B. Sage. He became a life member of the American Numismatic and Archaeological Society in 1869, and apparently was still active into the 1880s. His last known address was 154 5th Avenue, New York City. Further research could elucidate more about this enigmatic early participant in medal collecting.

Purchased from Presidential Coin and Antique Company.

Choice Original 1779 John Paul Jones Medal

Rare Copper Striking Before 1842

Paris Mint



- 1073 Betts-568. 1779 John Paul Jones. Copper. Choice Mint State. Plain edge. Lovely reflective medium brown and mottled mahogany with absolutely choice surfaces and eye appeal. It is difficult to conceive of a more well-preserved or attractive specimen of this popular and historic medal. Collectors have been enamored of this medal since its first issuance around 1789 for Augustin Dupre's marvelous interpretation of the Jean-Antoine Houdon bust of Jones and its evocative and expressive depiction of the battle between the *Bonhomme Richard* and the *Serapis* on September 23, 1779. The medal was authorized by Congress in 1787 and accomplished by Dupre by commission at the Paris Mint. The obverse features the legend JOANNI PAULO JONES CLASSIS PRAEFECTO COMITIA AMERICANA or "The American Congress to John Paul Jones, Captain of the fleet" with a bust taken from Houdon's, which was accomplished in Paris between 1779 and 1781 upon commission by the Freemason Lodge of the Nine Sisters in Paris. The reverse shows Paul's vessel *Bonhomme Richard*, named in honor of Benjamin Franklin, engaging the *Serapis* with the *Countess of Scarborough* behind and the legend HOSTIUM NAVIBVS CAPTIS AVT FUGATIS AD ORAM SCOTIAE or "The ships of the enemy captured or put to flight on the

shores of Scotland" and the date September 23, 1779 with Dupre's signature below. The edge is plain, designating this as a Paris Mint striking before 1842 after which point strikings were marked with CUIVRE or a privy mark.

Unlike many Comitia Americana medals, these original dies were never used by the U.S. Mint for restrikes, indeed, the U.S. Mint made copy dies without Dupre's signature in 1863 to satisfy collector demand. Superb original strikings are offered infrequently and always attract richly deserved attention from collectors of the Comitia Americana series of the U.S. Mint naval series, which began with this important medal. An extraordinary specimen of this revered medal.

Weight: 1303.8 grains. Diameter: 55.9 mm.

Stahl 54.

The story of John Paul Jones' exploits is an American legend of the first order. Jones, born in Scotland in 1747 with the given name John Paul, was mustered into the Continental Navy in December 1775. Jones took the *Bonhomme Richard*, a French vessel equipped with 42 guns, to sea in August of 1779 looking for British vessels. He found the *Serapis* off the coast of Scotland and engaged it, despite being undersized in comparison. The *Bonhomme Richard* was destroyed in the struggle which ensued, during which Jones offered his nearly clichéd "I have not yet begun to fight," and Jones rode off triumphant in the *Serapis* after its crew surrendered. Later, Jones served in the Russian Navy after being offered a commission by Catherine the Great. He died in 1792 in Paris, but his remains were delivered to the United States in 1905 and are now interred at the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis. The original dies for this medal, along with a gold striking from the now-cracked dies struck in 1950, are on display at his crypt.

From Glendining's sale of October 1994, Lot 852.

Lovely John Paul Jones "Restrike"

U.S. Mint Dies



- 1074 Betts-568. "1779" John Paul Jones. Striking from 1863 dies. Copper. Choice Mint State. Plain edge. Beautiful reflective mahogany brown and subtle violet with nearly cameo contrast between fields and devices. A few very minor hairlines are visible under magnification, but the quality and eye appeal of this

specimen are exquisite. Since the U.S. Mint was unsuccessful in attempts to acquire the original dies from the Paris Mint, copy dies lacking Dnpre's signature were produced at Philadelphia. These dies were used to strike only 118 pieces in copper. The present specimen is a superb one, and it is accompanied by a leatherette box of 19th century vintage.

Weight: 1655.6 grains. Diameter: 57.2 mm.

From Sotheby's sale of October 1993, Lot 101.



1075 Betts-571. 1780 Treaty of Armed Neutrality. Silver. Nearly Extremely Fine. Plain edge. Silver gray with pale golden peripheries and lightly reflective surfaces. Polished long ago with some hairlines visible in the fields, but the overall eye appeal and quality are quite nice. The Betts series is celebrated for its diversity and worldwide scope, and the present medal is an excellent example of this global breadth. Struck by Catherine the Great of Russia, this medal commemorates the Russian participation in the 1780 Treaty of Armed Neutrality. The treaty was undertaken during the American Revolution by several European noncombatants to ensure that their trading ships and commercial partners were protected despite British attempts to search for contraband on the ships of any neutral party. The present medal depicts Mercury, god of commerce, interacting with Neptune, the god of the sea, before the coats of arms of Russia, Sweden, Denmark, and Holland with the legend MARE LIBERUM or "a free ocean." A sailor, his arms folded and hat on the ground, stands dejectedly out of the action, and the date 1780 is in the exergue below. An important and interesting medal and one of the few American reference medals struck by Russia, the main proponent of the League of Armed Neutrality and would-be mediator between Great Britain and the nascent United States.

Weight: 607.1 grains. Diameter: 49.4 mm.

In the earliest American diplomatic activity in Russia, Francis Dana traveled to St. Petersburg in 1781 to seek recognition of American independence by Catherine the Great and admission into the League of Armed Neutrality. Dana, private secretary to John Adams, was unsuccessful in gaining entry for America into this alliance of neutral parties and also found no recognition for the United States in Russia. The fact that Dana had neither diplomatic experience nor ability to speak French or Russian likely did not improve the United States' ability to gain the Russians' support. His sometime translator during the journey was his boss' teenage son, John Quincy Adams.

The League of Armed Neutrality was a major assistance to the American cause. Formed on February 29, 1780 by Catherine the Great, the alliance

ensured that Great Britain would not gain control of the shipping lanes to the United States at a time when the Continental Navy was little match for the Royal Navy. Catherine was impressed enough with John Paul Jones, however, to offer him a commission as admiral of the Black Sea fleet after the cessation of hostilities. Russia had grown to become an important trading partner, beginning with the 1763 journey of the *Wolfe*, which departed from Boston for St. Petersburg and returned laden with trade items.

From our sale of the Bebee Collection, August 1987, Lot 3579.



1076 Betts-572. 1780 Treaty of Armed Neutrality. Silver. Extremely Fine. Plain edge. Deep olive-gray with much remaining reflective surface and lustre. Attractive natural appearance with no defects worthy of note. Die crack near bottom of obverse and rim breaks at bottom of reverse. This medal commemorates the League of Armed Neutrality from the perspective of the Dutch, who signed the treaty in December 1780 and were promptly the object of a declaration of war from Great Britain. This medal was probably struck before December of that year, when the Dutch were wavering on joining the league after their initial invitation from Russia in February. The obverse of this medal depicts an armed union between Russia, Denmark, and Sweden, all three of whom were already signatory nations, and the Netherlands with the Dutch legend GEWAP ENDE NE UTRALI TEIT or "armed neutrality." The reverse shows the all-seeing eye of Providence with an eight line legend which translates "Jehovah, the avenger of treaties, confirms Catherine's treaty of assistance, so that the commerce of the neutral powers remains intact for the benefit of all people." This pro-Armed Neutrality propaganda was meant to ensure the future of the profitable trade the Dutch had with the Americans, but this trade and common pro-American sentiment led Great Britain to question their status as a "neutral" party.

In September 1780, the British received the proof they sought to make their suspicions concrete when Henry Laurens was captured by the British with documents suggesting an upcoming alliance between the Americans and Dutch, and before long the Dutch were considered combatants by the British despite the membership in the League of Armed Neutrality. This medal is an artifact of that precarious period of several months before the Dutch, for better or worse, became joined to the American cause. Two years later, the Dutch became the second nation to recognize the United States after the able diplomacy of John Adams. A significant medal which relates to the fascinating overseas diplomacy during this pivotal period of the Revolution.

Weight: 184.1 grains. Diameter: 31.8 mm.

Henry Laurens of South Carolina was captured and sent to the Tower of London, from which he emerged in 1782 when he was exchanged for Lord Cornwallis. The documents he carried were sanctioned by neither side.

The opposite propagandistic approach to this medal was taken on the Dutch language "Rhode Island Ship token," which was meant to dissuade the Dutch from their affection for the American cause.

Purchased from Hank Spangenberg.



- 1077 Betts-573. 1780 Treaty of Armed Neutrality. White metal. Choice Mint State. Plain edge. Bright reflective silver gray with remarkable lustre. Light golden toning clings to the periphery, and a few tiny obverse spots do nothing to detract from excellent eye appeal. After the British declaration of war on the Netherlands, the Dutch persisted in declaring themselves a neutral party and a member of the League of Armed Neutrality, as this medal indicates. The obverse shows a relaxed sailor surrounded by the arms of Russia, Denmark, Sweden, and the Netherlands with a legend which Betts renders as "The aim of princes, the desire of good men, the life of the republic."

The reverse inscription claims "The merchant trade provoked by British arrogance binds a neutral band around the free hat of the Netherlands, January 5, 1781" in a rhyming couplet in Dutch. As Betts suggests, this medal indicates a "spirit of resistance" to the British activities on the high seas; it also shows the Dutch attempts to claim neutrality without endangering their valuable trade with America as by this point they had taken control of the grand majority of the trade that Great Britain had been so enriched by as a mother country. The present specimen of this scarce medal is a simply superb one, and is worthy of a premium bid from specialists.

Weight: 163.5 grains. Diameter: 31.5 mm.

Purchased from Richard Margolis on May 6, 1976.



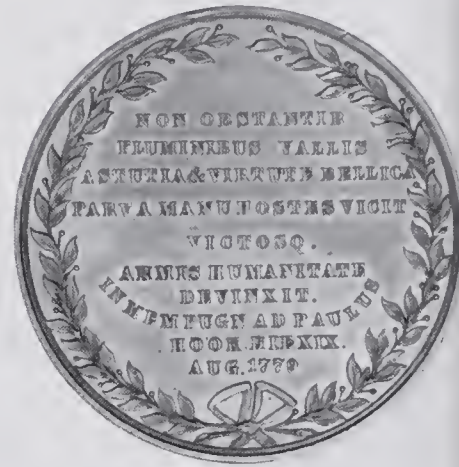
- 1078 Betts-574. 1780 Escape of Dutch Fishing Fleet. Silver. About Uncirculated. Plain edge. Dark pewter gray with lovely iridescent highlights of gold, rose, and violet on lustrous surfaces. Very pleasing visual appeal. In the wake of the British declaration of war against the Netherlands, the Dutch had to inform its massive fishing fleet of the new state of war with the British and ensure their safety. In order to accomplish this, Jacob Van der Wint took his vessel, the *Red Rose*, to the fleet and accompanied it back to harbor in the Netherlands. This medal commemorates this feat, which began the day after news of the state of war reached the Netherlands. The obverse of this medal shows a splendid depiction of Van der Wint's ship with a legend reading "For the safety of ships and the people, Jacob Van der Wint." The reverse continues the inscription, saying "December 29, 1780, sailed from Vlaarding in order to communicate the state of war to the fleet, and to recall the same; safely returned January 11, 1781." An interesting and very scarce medal.

Weight: 187.3 grains. Diameter: 31.9 mm.

Purchased from Hank Spangenberg.

Rare Henry Lee at Paulus Hook Medal

Only 35 Struck



- 1079 Betts-575. "1779" (ca. 1874-1876) Lee at Paulus Hook. Bronze. Extremely Fine. Plain edge. Mottled light brown, tan, and gold with lustre adhering to protected areas of the design. Perhaps cleaned long ago, but still pleasing. A few tiny rim nicks are mentioned for accuracy.

Among Comitia Americana medals, the Henry Lee medal is exceptional. The dies for this medal were the only ones in the series accomplished in America; Joseph Wright finished them at the U.S. Mint in 1793 after an oversight prevented their production in France. The original obverse die cracked in hardening. Original specimens are currently unknown, though contemporary die trials exist in the collections of the American Philosophical Society in Philadelphia. This die marriage, which mates the cracked original obverse die and an 1874 copy reverse die, is the earliest collectible striking. Only 35 pieces in bronze were struck from this die pair between 1874 and 1876, at which time the obverse was retired in favor of a new copy obverse.

The obverse of this medal features Joseph Wright's bust of Henry Lee with the legend HENRICO LEE LEGIONIS EQUIT. PRAEFECTO COMITIA AMERICANA or "American Congress to Henry Lee, lieutenant of the cavalry." The reverse, distinguishable from the original by the repunching in the ninth line, reads NON OBSTANTIB FLUMINIBUS VALLIS ASTUTIA & VIRTUTE BELLICA PARVA MANU HOSTES VICIT VICTOSQ. ARMIS HUMANITATE DEVINXIT. IN MEM PUGN AD PAULUS HOOK DIE XIX AUGU. 1779 or "Despite rivers and valleys, with cleverness and military courage, with a small band of men he conquered the enemy and held humanely those whom he had defeated. In memory of the Battle of Paulus Hook, August 19, 1779." This obverse was the first medallic die produced by the nascent Mint at Philadelphia, by the talented first Chief Engraver. For serious students of U.S. Mint history or collectors of Mint medals, the present specimen represents an important opportunity.

Weight: 816.1 grains. Diameter: 45.3 mm.

Stahl 52.

Henry Lee, better known to history as "Lighthorse Harry" Lee, was a talented son of one of the great aristocratic families of Virginia. After graduating from Princeton in 1773, he joined the cavalry of the Continental Army and saw rapid promotion for his courage and skill on horseback that earned him his nickname. He was awarded his gold medal from Congress for his capture of Paulus Hook at modern day Jersey City, New Jersey in August 1779. Lee captured 158 British troops with the loss of only two Americans. Though he did not capture and hold the fort, his action was lauded by General Washington and the Congress. A court martial later questioned his tactics. Henry Lee's medal from Congress was authorized by the following resolution in September 1779:

"Resolved that the thanks of Congress be Given to Major Lee for the Re-

markable prudence, address and bravery Displayed by him in the Action & that they approve the Humanity shown by him in Circumstances prompting to Severity, as Honorable to the Arms of the United States and Correspondent to the Noble principles on which they were assumed. Resolved that Congress Entertain the higher Sense of the Discipline and fortitude manifested by the Officers and Soldiers under the command of Major Lee in the March, Action & Retreat and while with Singular Satisfaction, they acknowledge the Merit of these Gentlemen. They feel an additional pleasure by Considering them as part of an army, in which many brave officers and Soldiers have proved by their Cheerful performance of Every Duty under Every Difficulty that they ardently wish to Give The Truly Glorious Example they now receive. Resolved that Congress Justly Esteem the Military Caution so happily Combined with Daring Activity by Lieut. McCallister & Rudolph in Laiding on the forlorn hope - Resolved that a medal of Gold Emblematical of this affair be Struck under the Direction of the board of Treasury and presented to Major Lee. Resolved that Brevets and the pay & Subsistence of Captain be Given to Lieut's McCollister & Rudolph Respectively. Resolved that the sum of 15,000 Dollars be put into the hands of Major Lee to be by him Distributed amongst the Non-Commissioned Officers & Soldiers of the Detachment he Commanded at the attack & Surprise of Powlis Hook, in such manner as the Commander-in-Chief shall Direct."

Lee is also remembered for two other notable contributions to American history. His funeral oration on the occasion of the death of his hero, General George Washington, became legendary as the source of that unforgettable phrase "first in war, first in peace, first in the hearts of his countrymen." Equally unforgettable was Lee's offspring, Robert Edward, who would lead the Army of Northern Virginia with valor on the same order of that exhibited by his father in the Campaign of 1779.

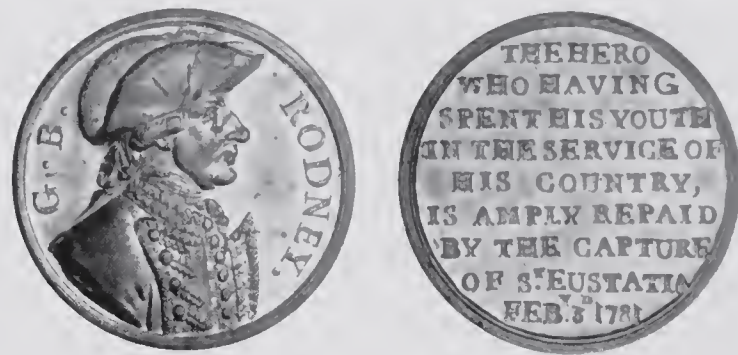
From Johnson and Jensen's sale of April 1981, Lot 1882.



- 1080 Betts-575. "1779" Lee at Paulus Hook. Striking from 1880 (?) dies. Bronze. Choice Mint State.** Plain edge. Glossy medium brown with pleasing subtle lustre. Very attractive with only a few minuscule spots under truncation of shoulder noted. The present medal was struck after the original obverse die finally broke beyond further use ca. 1877, using a new obverse and the 1874 reverse die. Only 44 pieces were minted in bronze from this set of dies, and the present example is a superb specimen. Important for the Mint medal collector and very scarce.

Weight: 592.8 grains. Diameter: 45.2 mm.

From NASCA's sale of the Kessler-Spangenberg collection, April 1981, Lot 1652. The superbly catalogued Kessler-Spangenberg sale remains one of the standard references in the field of Mint medals.



- 1081 Betts-579. 1781 Capture of St. Eustatia. White metal. Mint State.** Plain edge. Bright silver gray with rich mint lustre. Some of the usual handling marks expected of even very high-grade medals struck in this composition, but very attractive and well preserved. The medals commemorating the capture of St. Eustatia, a group more numerous than Betts would indicate, are an important and interesting subset of medals relating to the American Revolution. Most, like this variety, depict Admiral George Brydges Rodney and have a reverse inscription glorifying the actions of February 3, 1781. On that day, Rodney and 3,000 men on 15 warships overwhelmed the tiny Dutch island in the Leeward chain and began to shut the entire island down. St. Eustatia, now known as St. Eustatius, was a primary source of powder and ammunition to the American colonies, especially Virginia, and a pivotal trading port during the American Revolution. This particular medal shows a bust of Rodney to left, similar in style to the 1779 medals of Cook and Keppel, with an abbreviated form of his name G.B. RODNEY. The reverse reads THE HERO WHO HAVING SPENT HIS YOUTH IN THE SERVICE OF HIS COUNTRY IS AMPLY REPAID BY THE CAPTURE OF ST. EUSTATIA FEB. 3d 1781.

Rodney entered the navy as a 13-year-old volunteer in 1732 and was promoted to captain 10 years later. Upon capturing the merchant center of St. Eustatia, Rodney and members of his command plundered the island and came under fire for their actions soon thereafter. Rodney, who was deeply in debt at the beginning of the Revolution, profited greatly from the capture. This medal takes a pro-Rodney stance during this tumult, when Rodney and his officers were the object of lawsuits from many loyal British merchants who claimed their goods had been unfairly confiscated. Acting as the first Secretary of State, Thomas Jefferson as late as 1792 was still arbitrating the petitions of some non-loyal residents of St. Eustatia who claimed a right to remuneration from the victorious Americans. This very rare medal, which Betts lists only in brass, speaks to the period of time when the capture of St. Eustatia was a top news story in America, Britain, and throughout the Caribbean. The important role of this action in the Revolution and the superb condition of this medal make it worthy of inclusion in any collection of medals relating to the American Revolution.

Weight: 226.1 grains. Diameter: 35.0 mm.

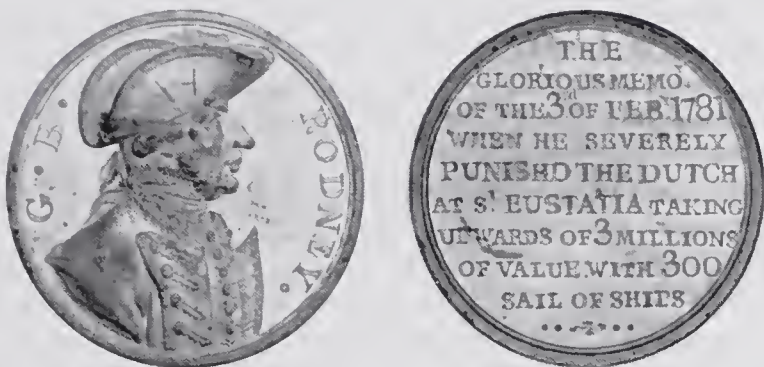
A die crack descends from near 12:00 on the obverse through the center of Rodney's portrait.

St. Eustatia was a trade port of prime importance to the American cause during the Revolution. As a hotbed of Dutch and American merchants, the island was overwhelmingly sympathetic to the American cause. The American ship *Andrew Doria*, upon arriving at port in St. Eustatia in November 1776, received an 11-gun salute from Fort Oranje, the first such recognition accorded a vessel representing the new nation. In the next few years, the island became important as a source for armaments as well as intelligence. Benjamin Franklin had all of his mail from Europe go through the safe harbor at St. Eustatia and a British officer at the time described the island as "the rendezvous of everything and everybody meant to be clandestinely conveyed to America." Historian Andrew O'Shaughnessy speaks in detail about the role of St. Eustatius in the American Revolution and its capture at the hands of Rodney in his work *An Empire Divided: The American Revolution and the British Caribbean*. Therein, O'Shaughnessy describes Rodney's attitude towards the people of the island, quoting Rodney as calling them "Robbers, Adventurers, Betrayers of their Country and Rebels to their King (who) had no right to expect a capitulation or to be treated as a respectable

People." He furthermore quotes Rodney, referring to St. Eustatia as a "rock of only six miles in length, and three in breadth, [which] has done England more harm than all the arms of her most potent enemies, and alone supported the infamous American Rebellion." O'Shaughnessy describes the situation that precipitated this precise variety.

The Society of West India Merchants and Planters spurred Edmund Burke to present their case to Parliament. According to O'Shaughnessy, "in 1786, the claimants won a judgment for reimbursement, not according to the value of the sales conducted by the commanders, but for the full original value of the goods. The French merchants at St. Eustatius were similarly reimbursed. Rodney was forced to return their household goods and slaves while he was in St. Eustatius." Other non-British subjects were forced to try to recover their losses other ways, including those who pursued repayment through the United States Department of State. One petition to Secretary Jefferson included a claim "that he shipped goods to St. Eustatia, with a view to supply the Americans, of which £15,000 sterling's worth was captured by British ships" and asked repayment for the same, which Jefferson denied.

Purchased privately on November 7, 1974.



- 1082 Betts-580. 1781 Capture of St. Eustatia. White metal. About Uncirculated.** Plain edge. Bright reflective silver gray with some darker toning on high points of the devices. Lustrous and very attractive. Shallow dig on reverse at UPWARDS noted. The obverse die, similar to the previous variety though actually a different die, shows some "die rust." Recent research by Craig Sholley suggests that so-called "die rust" as shown on this die is actually an indication of spalling on the die, or shallow chipping in the die due to imperfectly alloyed die steel.

The Betts-580 variety features the reverse inscription THE GLORIOUS MEMOY OF THE 3rd OF FEB. 1781 WHEN HE SEVERELY PUNISH'D THE DUTCH AT St. EUSTATIA TAKING UPWARDS OF 3 MILLIONS OF VALUE WITH 300 SAIL OF SHIPS, thereby celebrating the looting for which Rodney was heavily criticized. Rodney and his officers derived great personal benefit from their capture of the island, whose "seized goods were auctioned to buyers of any nationality" according to historian Andrew O'Shaughnessy. O'Shaughnessy furthermore says of Rodney "his patriotic fever was mixed with a large element of greed," though his greed was seen as a fair turn to those who believed the Dutch were a far from neutral party in the battle for American independence. This scarce, interesting medal is important as a numismatic indication of the tenor of British public opinion during the Revolution.

Weight: 262.5 grains. Diameter: 35.3 mm.

The entry for this medal in the Betts manuscript is instructive. The legend is misrendered by Betts, which either indicates that his penmanship was poor or that he never actually saw the medal in question. The latter seems the more likely, as Betts did not indicate the size of the medal in question and the editors, William T.R. Marvin and Lyman Low, also admit to having never seen this variety. Of course, it would be unlikely that this medal would have been sold in America during the Revolution or in the era after it, so most pieces still extant were (and are) found in England.

Purchased privately.



- 1083 Betts-unlisted. BHM-229. 1781 Capture of St. Eustatia. Silver. Extremely Fine.** Plain edge. Very pleasing pewter gray with pale surface iridescence. Some lustre remains in protected areas of the design. Beautiful eye appeal, though we note a tiny rim nick at 10:00 on the obverse and a barely noticeable push at 3:00 on the reverse. This obverse die is the same as that of Betts-580, though none of the spalling is noticed which indicates that this is likely an earlier use of the die. The reverse die reads IN MEMORY OF THE GLORIOUS 3RD FEB. 1781 WHEN Sr. GEORGE PUNISH'D THE DUTCH &c: &c:, surrounded by an oak wreath. Though unlisted by Betts, this piece is from the same series as Betts-579 and 580 and relates to the same important event. A delightful piece, called rare by Laurence Brown in *British Historical Medals* and worthy of inclusion in any assemblage of Betts medals.

Weight: 297.8 grains. Diameter: 34.6 mm.

Purchased privately.



- 1084 Betts-unlisted. BHM-233. 1781 Capture of St. Eustatia. Brass or Pinchbeck metal. Very Fine.** Plain edge. Brassy medium brown with some darker mottling. Some roughness, probably in the die, around the obverse legend. The obverse die, though similar to Betts-579 and 580, is different and lacks the punctuation mark after RODNEY. The reverse features the legend RODNEY.FOR.EVER. and depicts two warships, one firing, at harbor near a fort. As the previous lot, this piece is unlisted in Betts but is among the relatively large series of medals struck in the early 1780s in England to celebrate the taking of St. Eustatia by Admiral George Rodney. An attractive specimen of this variety.

Weight: 213.7 grains. Diameter: 33.1 mm.

Purchased from Eugene Liepman.



1085 Betts-581. 1781 Willem Crul at St. Eustatia. Silver. About Uncirculated. Plain edge. Technically Mint State, but polished long ago. Bright silver gray with pale gold and amber at peripheries and in protected areas of the legend. Some scattered hairlines and light marks on the heavily reflective surfaces, none of which are individually serious. The present medal also makes note of the capture of St. Eustatia in 1781, but from the Dutch perspective. It depicts Admiral Willem Crul, who commanded the Dutch vessels in the West Indies at the time of the capture of St. Eustatia and died during the battle.

The obverse shows Crul with his name and titles around, while the reverse shows Mercury, the god of commerce, weeping. Betts translates the legends as "Inferior in strength but not in valor, he fell fighting February 4, 1781." This lovely silver funerary medal is well accomplished by the talented hand of Johann Georg Holtzhey, who was also responsible for Dutch Betts medals commemorating the Battle of Doggersbank, the Dutch-American treaty of amity, and the reception of John Adams as envoy. A delightful and scarce memorial to a Dutch casualty of the war for American independence in the Caribbean.

Weight: 483.7 grains. Diameter: 45.2 mm.

Purchased from Eugene Leipman.



1086 Betts-583. 1781 Dutch Victory Over British. Silver. Choice Very Fine. Plain edge. Even pewter gray with very nice eye appeal for the grade. Short nick in right obverse field beneath REPULSA noted, but inoffensive. Accomplished in the Netherlands by Johann Georg Holtzhey, this medal was struck to commemorate the Dutch naval victory off Cadiz against two British ships on May 30, 1781. Writing in the July 1888 issue of the *American Journal of Numismatics*, George Parsons described this medal as follows:

"It commemorates an engagement off Cadiz, on the 30th of May, 1781, between two Dutch and two English vessels, in which the latter were defeated. The obverse shows the four ships, two of which are in good condition, the others well nigh helpless. The design of the reverse is very simple, but very effective in its good taste and in the skill with which it has been executed. It is simply a trident, erected as a trophy on the sea shore, on which is suspended the shield of Holland; above it is a naval crown, and below are two smaller shields, carrying

what are probably the arms of the successful commanders, Melville and Oorthius, whose names and rank are inscribed on pennons floating gracefully from staves projecting from the top of the smaller shields on each side the trophy; behind the shield of Holland are two crossed anchors. What adds so much to the beauty of the medal is the skill with which it represents the boundless sea and the sun half seen behind the distant horizon. The inscription begins on the obverse and is concluded on the reverse: VIS VI FORTITER REPULSA. PROPE GADES XXX MAY MCCCLXXXI. ANTIQUA VIRTUTE DUUM VIRI P. MELVILL NAVARCHUS G. OORTHIUS NAVARCHIUS [Force courageously repulsed by force and the old time valor of two men, P. Melvill[e] Captain, G. Oorthius Captain, — the place and date of the battle in exergue of its obverse, — near Cadiz, May 30, 1781]." A scarce medal from the last months of naval activity before Yorktown, issued during the Anglo-Dutch war of 1780 to 1784 that was intimately tied to and inspired by the American Revolution.

Weight: 474.6 grains. Diameter: 45.0 mm.

Since the Anglo-Dutch war of 1780 to 1784 is little known in America, we reprint the following brief description of the conflict from George C. Kohn's useful *Dictionary of Wars* (Doubleday, 1986).

"The American Revolution made Great Britain an enemy of most European nations because the British refused to recognize neutrality in the war and seized ships indiscriminately. A League of Armed Neutrality was formed and threatened war against Britain if it did not stop its practices, but only Holland (a league member) actually suffered. The British, angry because Holland supplied French and Spanish arms to American rebels through its West Indian Dutch base, St. Eustatius, declared war in 1780, captured and sank a number of Dutch vessels, and inflicted serious damage on Dutch trade. No naval or land battles occurred. In 1784, Britain apologized for its actions, pleading wartime necessity, when it concluded the Treaty of Paris."

Purchased from James King on February 17, 1972.

Rare 1781 British Resentment Medal

A Choice Specimen



1087 Betts-584. 1781 British Resentment. Silver. Choice About Uncirculated. Plain edge. Lovely silver gray with gold, blue, and violet highlights and nearly full lustre. A short dig on George's lapel is noted for future identification and for lack of

any greater flaw. This evocative medal is shrouded in mystery; though the authors of the Betts work and *BHM* agree approximately on its meaning, little or nothing is known about its issuance. The obverse depicts King George laureated and cuirassed to left with the legend GEORGIUS III REX ANG. or King George III of England, likely indicating that it was issued somewhere other than England itself. The reverse shows the Lion, symbolic of Britain, tied up a rope with the legend INDOCILIS PATI IN PERPET MEMOR. with the date 1781 in Roman numerals. Betts translates the reverse legend as "Never taught to submit. In perpetual memory, 1781." Brown, in *BHM*, translates it similarly as "Cannot be trained to submit," and suggests that the piece stylistically seems to be a German product.

The piece may be satirical, suggesting that Britain was never before taught to suffer or submit and thereby making a perpetual memorial to the year they did, 1781. Brown offers a possible pro-British sentiment, saying "the reverse of this medal is open to various interpretations; it seems likely, however, that it was intended to indicate British resentment at the league of armed neutrality and the determination of England to continue the war if necessary." Betts likewise accedes a possible connection to the League of Armed Neutrality, but it is difficult to imagine a medal celebratory of Britain's determination which not only shows a lion tied in ropes (and hardly bursting his bonds as suggested by Betts) but accords King George only England as a kingdom. 1781 stands out in British military history as the year of the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown, and any mention of that year along with submission and perpetual memory must evoke that ignominious defeat for the British empire.

This medal hides its secret well. Indeed, a tiny cluster of leaves with a single flower seen in the foreground of the reverse at the right end of the exergual line seems hardly arbitrary but has evaded description by Brown and Betts. Its meaning, much like that of this unusual medal, is unknown. Numismatic scholarship may deduce the meaning of this medal at some point, or at least offer cohesive arguments as to its interpretation. Chief among these interpretations should be those that take the opposite viewpoint of Brown: that the medal ridicules rather than praises Britain and its king. While Brown and Betts may be correct in estimating that the medal was struck by pro-British forces speaking against the League of Armed Neutrality, whatever meaning is attached to this medal firmly places it in reference to the war for America in the year of its conclusion. This medallic enigma will undoubtedly interest advanced students of the American Revolution and grace any collection into which it is placed. Brown calls the medal "extremely rare" in silver, and wise collectors will do well to offer their best effort when it crosses the auction block.

Weight: 684.6 grains. Diameter: 54.2 mm.

A specimen of this medal was offered by Sotheby's on July 1, 1892 and realized the grand sum of £5.

From Atmanzar's sale of June 1973, Lot 4640.

Scarce 1781 Doggersbank Award Medal



1088 Betts-585. 1781 Battle of Doggersbank. Silver. Very Fine.

Plain edge. Pale pewter gray with some golden toning bear the peripheries. Ring probably removed from edge at 12:00, though no obvious vestiges of its presence or removal remain. A very nice specimen for the assigned grade.

This medal was issued as a decoration to Dutch veterans of the Battle of Doggersbank, a naval battle in the Anglo-Dutch war fought in the North Sea on August 5, 1781. The Dutch, with 17 ships led by Admiral John Arnold Zoutman, battled to a draw with the English, whose 19 ships were led by Admiral Keith Stewart. While there was "no decisive result according to the English authorities" according to the editors of Betts, the new Dutch navy saw their battle as a major victory against the most powerful navy on earth. Each ship's captain, in addition to Zoutman and his First Officer, received a specimen in gold suspended from a ribbon striped red, white, and blue. Officers received a silver medal with a similar ribbon; non-commissioned officers and midshipmen received the same medal with an orange ribbon. The medal's legends indicate that it was given "by the liberality of the Prince of Orange" and was "the reward of distinguished valor." Today, "it is seen by most historians as the first official Dutch war medals," according to Erik Muller's study of Dutch orders and decorations. It was struck to commemorate a battle in a conflict exacerbated by the American Revolution, whose timing in the summer before the victory of the French fleet at Yorktown undoubtedly helped the American cause. An interesting and popular award medal whose pedigree begins with a combatant against British forces in 1781.

Weight: 232.7 grains. Dimensions: 36.4 mm x 29.3 mm.

Purchased from Hank Spangenberg.

Choice 1781 Battle of Doggersbank Medal



1089 Betts-587. 1781 Battle of Doggersbank. Silver. Choice Mint State. Plain edge. Fully reflective surfaces beautifully toned shades of gold and amber. Tiny dig noted below the L of BELONING on the reverse, else immaculate and choice. Accomplished by the talented hand of Johann Georg Holtzhey like so many other Dutch medals of the period, this medal is a medallic memorial to one of the Dutch casualties of the Battle of Doggersbank.

According to Betts, "Wolter Jan Geritt, Baron Bentinck, who commanded the *Batavier* in the battle of Doggersbank, was born July 30, 1745. He was mortally wounded in the fight, having distinguished himself by his bravery, and was made Rear Admiral a few days before his death." The *Batavier* was part of the Dutch naval fleet which accompanied the massive merchant fleet present at Doggersbank, and it is depicted on the medal's obverse with its flag at half mast. The obverse includes the captain's name, WOLTER JAN BARON BENTINCK with the further legend "wounded as Captain on the 5th, died as Rear Admiral and Aide on the 24th; buried August 28, 1781"

and a depiction of a funeral urn atop an altar. The reverse shows a beautifully rendered monument with assorted armaments and flags around it and the legends "recompense of valor" and "by high authority." The latter legend, along with the depiction of the arms of the Amsterdam Admiralty, probably indicates that that body was responsible for the production of this medal. The Amsterdam Admiralty was a governmental division in charge of managing maritime affairs (including the navy) and commissioning the construction of new vessels. The Hague assumed these responsibilities in 1795 when the Netherlands fell under Napoleon's regime and the former Admiralty house became a palace.

This piece represents the grandeur of the Admiralty when the Netherlands were still a major force in world trade and provides perhaps the only long-standing memorial to a Dutch captain who otherwise would have been all but lost to history. For those who seek to include this variety in their collection of American related medals, it would be difficult to imagine a finer specimen extant.

Weight: 458.8 grains. Diameter: 44.9 mm.

Purchased by Eugene Leipman on December 4, 1972.



- 1090 Betts-588. 1781 Battle of Doggersbank. Silver. About Uncirculated.** Plain edge. Silver gray with lots of remaining lustre and some subtle golden highlights. Tiny lint mark noted at top of reverse as struck, some minor hairlines are the only defects worthy of note. This is a splendid little medal struck to commemorate the "victory" at Doggersbank, though history shows that it was in fact a draw, despite the fact that British forces withdrew against the less powerful Dutch fleet. As described by Betts, the obverse shows "two full rigged ships, Dutch and English, stern on, in action" with flags flying. In the style of late 18th-century cartoons, the words *HOEZEE! DE BRIT RUIMT ZEE* or "Hurray! Britain abandons the sea" fly from the Dutch vessel over the British ship. The exergue indicates the date of the battle, while the reverse has a rhyme which translates to "Oh Batavians, God sustains your right; Zoutman, by his heroic valor, has restored the honor of the free flag, and overcome arrogance in battle." This populist sentiment recalls the previously noticed John Arnold Zoutman, who commanded the Dutch vessels at the battle and became a Dutch hero on the order of Admirals Vernon or Rodney. An interesting and scarce medalet from the period after the Battle of Doggersbank.

Weight: 159.1 grains. Diameter: 30.2 mm.

Purchased from Charles McSorley in November 1969.



- 1091 Betts-589. 1781 Battle of Doggersbank. Silver. Extremely Fine.** Plain edge. Dark pewter gray with lovely multicolored iridescence and plentiful lustre. Minuscule nicks on rim noted on obverse at 11:30 and 3:00; they are inconsequential. Collaring mark filed from edge near 11:00. Akin to the *Libertas Americana* medal in its creative and well-rendered allegorical scene, this medal was struck by the Amsterdam Admiralty to celebrate the Dutch captains at Doggersbank. On the obverse, a goddess representing the Netherlands holds a lance while the Batavian lion clings to the arrows of war and overcomes a pile of armaments. Behind the goddess, merchandise of both the Dutch East India Company and the Dutch West India Company is shown behind an altar draped with three medals. The obverse legend reads *INJURIS COACTA IN VADO ASELL. V AUG MDCCLXXXI* or "Compelled by injuries on the Doggersbank, August 5, 1781." The reverse shows a starburst with seven laurel wreaths draped with medals and containing the names of the captains at Doggersbank, John Arnold Zoutman's is at center surmounting two crossed anchors. The initials *AA* for the Amsterdam Admiralty are on either side, and the legend translates to "to the immortal defenders of the glory of the Netherlands." A lovely specimen of this Betts medal, unusual in its self-reflective depictions of medals and interesting in its rendering of this battle which helped preserve what was left of Dutch worldwide trade.

Weight: 472.6 grains. Diameter: 44.8 mm.

The editors of Betts added a useful footnote to the description of this medal which includes a brief biographical notice of each of the seven captains and mention of each of their ships. The note ends with Marvin and Low's comment about the Battle of Doggersbank that "the battle had great influence in leading the Netherlands to acknowledge American Independence."

Purchased from Ralph Goldstone in November 1969.



- 1092 Betts-590. 1781 Battle of Doggersbank. Silver. Choice About Uncirculated.** Plain edge. Lustrous silver gray with pleasing natural gold and violet highlights. Very attractive and pleasing. Probably struck for popular consumption after the comparative success at Doggersbank, this "boastful medal," as the editors of Betts call it, is very similar in sentiment to Betts-588. The obverse shows the Batavian lion rampant supported by an altar surmounted by Mercury's caduceus and the free hat, representative of trade and Dutch liberty. Upon the reverse is another rhyming inscription which translates to "Liberally, hardly had the fleet got to sea with its brave sons of the Netherlands when the arrogance of the enemy sank out of sight before their patriotic courage," according to Betts. With these expressed sentiments, it is easy to see why the Dutch felt a kinship with the Americans in the early 1780s. A splendid little medalet, listed only in copper by Betts and likely quite scarce in silver such as this.

Weight: 83.0 grains. Diameter: 25.9 mm

Purchased from Hank Spangenberg.

Important 1781 Daniel Morgan at Cowpens Medal

A Classic Rarity in Silver



1093 Betts-593. 1781 Daniel Morgan at Cowpens. Silver. Extremely Fine. Plain edge. Silver gray with pale blue and subtle golden toning clinging to design elements and legends. Polished long ago but now attractive and natural in appearance. A rim nick at 3:00 will identify this specimen for future researchers. A tiny dig below the first E of EXERCITUS on the obverse is also noted. The eye appeal is excellent and the overall quality is very nice.

The Daniel Morgan at Cowpens medal was engraved by Augustin Dupre in Paris in 1789, after the approval of his designs by the Académie des Inscriptions in Paris. Morgan received his specimen in gold on March 25, 1790 from President George Washington, who received a full set of medals in silver as well as the presentation specimens from Thomas Jefferson on March 21 upon Jefferson's return from France. The medal, like all in the Comitia Americana series, was hopelessly delayed but eventually completed through the careful guardianship of Minister Jefferson after 1786 when the Congressional commissions for medals was handed over to him from Colonel David Humphreys. According to an 1819 letter from Jefferson to Morgan Neville, the eldest grandson of Daniel Morgan, "Congress had directed copies [e.g. specimens, not reproductions] in silver to be presented to the distinguished sovereigns of Europe and to the universities of that quarter and our own. This part of the business, being unfinished, was left with Mr. [William] Short [Jefferson's secretary] and finally, I believe, dropt." The present medal was one of a tiny number struck in Paris from the original dies by Dupre, which may be discriminated from those struck from copy dies by the die chip below the M of the year in the reverse exergue.

In their work *Medals Commemorating Battles of the American Revolution*, Vladimir and Elvira Clain-Stefanelli call the Morgan at Cowpens medal "one of the finest artistic creations in the whole series." R.W. Julian is similarly laudatory, saving of Dupre's creation "it is a work that would stand out in any age."

Many of Dupre's original sketches still exist for this medal, and all of them show Morgan bowing and accepting a laurel crown from a half-nude Indian princess symbolic of America. As completed, the medal features Morgan to the right, his sword pointed groundward as a sign of humility, bowing as America places a wreath upon his head while standing before armaments, flags, and a shield. The legend COMITIA AMERICANA [in exergue] DANIELI MORGAN DUCI EXERCITUS may be translated as "The American Congress to Commander of the Army Daniel Morgan." The engraving is of superb quality, from Morgan's windblown hair down to his spurs. The reverse is even more splendidly detailed and beautifully rendered. The main legend VICTORIA LIBERTATIS VINDEXT translates as "Victory is the defender of liberty."

Below, Daniel Morgan is shown mounted and leading the charge at Cowpens at the point of contact with the British. This depiction exhibits an artistic mastery which is the equal of any masterpiece in any medium. In the exergue, the legend identifies the scene: FUGATIS CAPTIS AUT CAESIS AD COWPENS HOSTIBUS XVII JAN MDCCLXXXI or "The enemy put to flight, captured, or killed at Cowpens, January 17, 1781." Dupre signed it as designer and engraver at the bottom rim.

Silver Comitia Americana medals in general are a very rare breed. The complete set given to George Washington by Thomas Jefferson in 1790 passed to Daniel Webster and currently resides in the Massachusetts Historical Society. That silver specimen of the Morgan at Cowpens medal was the only one the Mint could locate when it came time to make copy dies in the 1830s after looking for one "at length," according to Julian. Today, they are no commoner and the offering of any silver Comitia Americana original is a special occasion indeed. As per Jefferson's orders, some were distributed to heads of state and university collections in Europe and America. We have few documents that accompanied silver specimens, but those documents that have



Daniel Morgan, the hero of Cowpens

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survived verify that silver specimens were given to only an elite class of distinguished citizens. An example of this is the surviving documentation which accompanied the delivery of a silver specimen of the *Libertas Americana* medal to the Grand Master of Malta by Benjamin Franklin in 1783. While it is unknown precisely to whom this medal was originally presented, it was undoubtedly a character of some importance. While its pedigree before our consignor purchased it is unknown, perhaps the fact that it was purchased from a European concern suggests (though by no means confirms) a continental provenance. Today, the opportunity to become the next owner of this important artifact of the earliest days of our American republic should make any student of the period delighted and make any advanced numismatic connoisseur desirous. We know of no other offering of this medal in silver from the original dies at public auction in this century or any previous ones, and we suspect such trend will continue. In modern numismatics, *unique opportunities* occur so frequently as to be easily dismissed as cliché. May this opportunity reinvest the word *unique* with its true meaning, and thereby awaken numismatists to the very special nature of this magnificent offering.

Weight: 1215.9 grains. Diameter: 56.0 mm.

Stahl 64.

The Continental Congress passed the following resolution on March 9, 1781:

"The United States in Congress assembled, considering it as a tribute due to distinguished merit to give a public approbation of the conduct of Brigadier General Morgan, and of the officers and men under his command, on the 17th day of January last; when with eighty cavalry, and two hundred and thirty-seven infantry of the troops of the United States, and five hundred and fifty-three militia from the States of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia, he obtained a complete and important victory over a select and well appointed detachment of more than eleven hundred British troops, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Tarleton; do therefore resolve,

"That the thanks of the United States in Congress assembled, be given to Brigadier General Morgan, and the officers and men under his command, for their fortitude and good conduct, displayed in the action at the Cowpens, in the State of South Carolina, on the 17th of January last:

"That a medal of gold be presented to Brigadier General Morgan, and a medal of silver to Lieutenant Colonel W. Washington, of the cavalry, and one of silver to Lieutenant Colonel Howard, of the infantry of the United States; severally with emblems and mottos descriptive of the conduct of those officers respectively on that memorable day:[.]

"Ordered, That the commanding officer in the southern department, communicate these resolutions in general orders."

The battle was a significant blow to the English in the Southern Theatre, and has long been remembered for its skillfully planned attack spearheaded by Morgan. Morgan went on to lead armed forces against Pennsylvanians involved in the 1794 Whiskey Rebellion after retiring to his Virginia home, and served a single term in the House of Representatives. He died in 1802. After his death, his gold medal was passed to his grandson Morgan Neville. From Morgan Neville's December 10, 1819 letter to former president Tho-

mas Jefferson, written at Pittsburgh:

"Unfortunately, a bank in which the medal was deposited was last year robbed, & there with the medal other valuable articles belonging to me were taken. I have lost all hopes of recovering it, as I have reason to believe that one of the robbers threw it into the St. Lawrence. I leave it to you, sir, to judge of my mortification since this event.

"I have determined to petition Congress, through my friend, the honorable Henry Baldwin, to pass a resolution authorizing me to have one struck at my expense; as my situation, however at present would not permit me to take advantage of such a resolution without having the original die, I have written on the subject to Mr. [Albert] Gallatin & to the Marquis de Lafayette, whose aide de camp my father the late General Presley Neville was in '77. Since writing to these gentlemen it has occurred to me that, as the medals voted by Congress were executed under your direction, you might be able to assist me with your advice; if I be not mistaken you employed on that occasion three artists; Duvivier, Dupre, and Gatteau. My grandfathers' was executed by Dupre. Any information which you may have the goodness to give me as to where these dies were deposited; whose property you consider them; the possibility of my procuring the one I want, & what course I ought to pursue, will be most gratefully acknowledged by me. By gratifying me with a reply to this communication, you will lay me under a most serious obligation ... [signed] Morgan Neville."

Jefferson received his letter at Monticello on the 16th and replied two days later:

"On receipt of your letter of the 10th I turned to my paper respecting the medals given by Congress to certain officers. They charged their minister of finance with procuring them, and he put the execution into the hands of Col. Humphreys when he went to Paris as Secretary of Legation, but he, retiring before much progress was made, left the completion with me. I had them completed and then I returned from France in 1789. I brought two compleat [sic] sets & delivered them to General Washington, the one in silver for him-

self, the others in gold or silver as voted by Congress was for the officers and delivered to G. Washington to be presented. That to G. Morgan was of gold. Each die cost 2600 [livres] and the gold for the medal was 600 li. as an additional charge. Congress had directed copies in silver to be presented to the distinguished sovereigns of Europe and to the universities of that quarter and our own. This part of the business, being unfinished, was left with Mr. [William] Short [Jefferson's secretary] and finally, I believe, dropt. The dies were directed to be deposited in the office of Mr. Grand, banker of the U.S., and I think they were afterwards directed to be sent here & deposited in the treasury office but of this I am not sure. If they are not in our Treasury they ought still to be in the office of Mr. Grand. The dies were considered as the property of the U.S. and if not sent here can, I imagine, be found by our minister at Paris altho' Mr. Grand be dead long since. A Mr. Gautier succeeded in his house, but retired long since to Geneva, is still living as far as I know, and can give information on the subject. Perhaps Mr. Short of Philadelphia can also give some information. This is the sum of my knowledge [sic] of the matter which is tendered with the assurances of my respect.

"Th. Jefferson."

Morgan Neville thereby began the process to replace the lost gold medal awarded his grandfather by Congress for his military accomplishments. Julian records that "In July 1836, Congress passed an act authorizing the medal to be struck again in gold and presented to Morgan Neville, the heir of the general." The story of the restriking will be told with the following lot.

Purchased from Spink & Son.



Pleasing Morgan at Cowpens Restrike

1839 Dies



- 1094 Betts-593. "1781" Daniel Morgan at Cowpens. Restrike from 1839 dies. Copper. Choice About Uncirculated. Plain edge. Lovely rich mahogany brown with a matte appearance. Very attractive despite some cloudiness in the fields with no marks apparent to the naked eye. This medal is comparable to a classic poem in translation: masterful and pleasing to the senses, but to a slightly lesser degree than the original. After attempts to locate the original dies by Dupre were exhausted, American officials borrowed George Washington's silver specimen, then owned by Daniel Webster, in order to have copy dies produced from it in France as per the instructions of Daniel Morgan's grandson, Morgan Neville.

According to R.W. Julian, the silver original specimen was received by American Minister to France Lewis Cass in October 1838 and taken by Cass to the French engraver Jean Jacques Barre, who was responsible for the portraiture of both Louis Napoleon and Napoleon III used on French coinage. The new dies were completed by Barre in the summer of 1839 at a cost of 3500 francs, about \$700 according to Julian, and were received by the Mint in Philadelphia that November. The replacement gold medal for Morgan Neville was struck in December 1839, but he had recently died and his family would not receive the gold medal intended for them until 1841. The U.S. Mint used the Barre-Neville dies to strike a total of 98 pieces in copper; this specimen was probably struck sometime in the mid-19th century though pinpointing it more precisely is impossible. A superb example of this popular and beautiful member of the Comititia Americana series.

Weight: 1175.0 grains. Diameter: 56.1 mm.
Stahl 66.

It is interesting to note that Morgan Neville, the grandson of Daniel Morgan who commissioned the creation of the new dies, once owned the newspaper that still exists today as the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* and was also involved in the creation of the seal of the city of Pittsburgh.

From NASCA's sale of July 1981, Lot 39.

Lovely Washington at Cowpens Medal

Original Dies in Copper



- 1095 Betts-594. 1781 William Washington at Cowpens. Copper. Mint State. Plain edge. Choice reflective medium chocolate brown with some lustrous violet and golden highlights. Lovely eye appeal with only a tiny spot of corrosion in the obverse exergue worthy of note. Struck from the original dies at the Paris Mint with a plain edge, therefore dating from sometime during the 1790-1841 era. These dies are very nearly identical to the later copy dies, and may be easily identified using the flaws described by Alan Stahl in his study of the Comititia Americana medals: a tiny die chip beneath the W of WASHINGTON on the obverse and a die break between wreath and rim on the reverse at 1:30. From the die state we may attempt to deduce more precisely when the piece was struck; the Dreyfuss sale notes a tiny die chip above the first L in GULIELMO and another that develops between the end of WASHINGTON and the beginning of LEGIONIS. The former die break is present on this specimen and is in its very early state, so small as to be nearly invisible and smaller than that seen on Stahl specimen 71 which is also a 1790-1841 striking. The latter die flaw is not present on this example. From this we can resolve only that it is not the latest die state seen on plain edge specimens and was probably struck earlier rather than later in the period during which plain edge striking were produced.

The William Washington at Cowpens medal was authorized by the same resolution of Congress that authorized medals for Daniel Morgan and John Eager Howard. By the order of Congress, the medal presented to Lieutenant Colonel Washington, a distant relative of George Washington, was struck in silver and given to its intended recipient in March 1790. The dies were accomplished by Paris medallist Pierre Simon Benjamin DuVivier in fine style, depicting Washington leading a cavalry charge accompanied by Victory on the obverse. The reverse inscription may be translated "Through the determined pursuit of the enemy with a small group of soldiers, he gave a distinguished example of inborn valor in the battle of Cowpens, January 17, 1781." Washington became a hero after breaking the ranks of the hated British colonel Banastre Tarleton, who was legendary for his ruthless tactics and propensity for taking no prisoners. He was taken prisoner at Eutaw Springs in September 1781 and spent the rest of the war in British custody, before returning to life as a legislator in South Carolina. The present specimen of the medal dedicated to his valor is a superb one, and its choice state of preservation will no doubt make it attractive to specialists.

Weight: 605.7 grains. Diameter: 45.9 mm.
Stahl 71.

For an original silver specimen of the William Washington at Cowpens medal, see our sale of the Dreyfuss Collection, April 1986, Lot 5246.

Purchased from New Netherlands Coin Company in January 1969.

Superb Washington at Cowpens Medal

Silver Restrike ca. 1860-79



Glossy Howard at Cowpens Medal

Original Dies in Copper



1096 Betts-594. 1781 William Washington at Cowpens. Silver. Paris Mint Restrike ca. 1860-1879. **Choice About Uncirculated.** ARGENT edge with bee privy mark. Reflective silver gray with lovely violet and light blue highlights. Superlative visual appeal with just the lightest indication of cabinet friction on the high points and some minor hairlines. The William Washington medal was a very popular one among medal collectors of the 19th century, "possibly because of his family name and the rage for Washingtonia," according to Julian, and restrikes were always in demand. Silver restrikes from the original dies are quite scarce though, and this specimen is an earlier striking than both pieces in the Dreyfuss Collection. There were no silver specimens in the Kessler-Spangenberg sale at all. For those who seek a truly beautiful impression from the original dies, this example is unlikely to be surpassed.

Weight: 764.3 grains. Diameter: 46.4 mm.

Stahl unlisted in silver.

Purchased privately.



William Washington – "he gave a distinguished example of inborn valor" at Cowpens.



John Eager Howard – "he gave a distinguished example of military gallantry" at Cowpens.

1097 Betts-595. 1781 John Eager Howard at Cowpens. Copper. Mint State. Plain edge. Very glossy mottled chocolate brown. Beautifully preserved with lovely patina. A few minor nicks are noted on the right side of the reverse, others are inconsequential. Like other Comitia Americana medals with plain edges, this piece was struck from the original dies before 1842 at the Paris Mint. Its die flaws, at rim on obverse near 12:00 and above the S of VIRTUTIS on reverse, are basically identical to pieces struck from these dies into the 1860s, though the reverse flaw just mentioned was not present on the 1790 silver specimen in the Washington-Webster set.

The dies for this medal were commissioned of DuVivier and beautifully completed by him in a style very similar to his work on the Washington at Cowpens medal. On this piece, Howard is horseback and chasing a British soldier while Victory hovers near. The reverse is identical to the Washington at Cowpens medal except for the inscription, which is translated as "By suddenly attacking the wavering lines of the enemy, he gave a distinguished example of military gallantry in the battle at Cowpens, January 17, 1781."

According to Vladimir and Elvira Clain-Stefanelli, Thomas Jefferson took over responsibility for the medal's production in December 1785 and paid 2400 livres for the dies in 1789, soon after which a specimen of the medal was shown at the Royal Academy in Paris. DuVivier's pride in his work was well-founded, and collectors avidly sought "impressions" from the dies commissioned by Congress for the hero Howard. As an early restrike of this medal in such splendid condition, this is a scarce and important piece of numismatic Americana.

Weight: 666.9 grains. Diameter: 46.4 mm.

Stahl unlisted in bronze with plain edge.

John Eager Howard, whose middle name was misspelled on the medal, "is as good an officer as the world afforded, and deserves a statue of gold, no less than the Greek or Roman heroes." These words, from the Clain-Stefanelli's work on the Comitia Americana medals, were spoken by General Nathaniel Greene, himself a Congressional medal winner. Howard served with distinction early in the Revolution in the Northern theatre and was transferred south in 1779 after receiving a commission as a Lieutenant Colonel. At Cowpens, he commanded the light infantry, usually the first troops into battle, and kept the British troops on their heels until victory was achieved. By the time Howard actually received his medal, he was governor of his native Maryland. He later served a term in the U.S. Senate.

Purchased from Charles McSorley.

Gorgeous Howard/Washington at Cowpens Mule

Paris Mint ca. 1880-1898

Silver



1098 Betts-595. 1781 John Eager Howard at Cowpens. Silver. Paris Mint Restrike ca. 1880-1898. Choice Mint State. ARGENT edge with cornucopia privy mark. Light silver gray with heavily reflective surfaces and delicate pale violet and turquoise blue toning. A simply beautiful specimen in terms of its coloration and overall quality. This late 19th-century striking was produced using the original obverse die of the Howard at Cowpens medal and the original reverse die of the Washington at Cowpens medal, with all of the inherent die flaws previously described now in a more advanced state. Remarkably, DuVivier's dies are still in excellent condition and raise as much or more detail from the metal as they did when first used. The present piece was undoubtedly purchased from the Paris Mint by a contemporary collector and has obviously been cherished since. An impressive specimen in silver of this popular medal.

Weight: 745.5 grains. Diameter: 46.4 mm.

Stahl 86.

Purchased from Glenville Coin Company on July 14, 1972.

Extremely Rare Greene at Eutaw Springs Medal

One of 24 Pieces Struck in 1787



1099 Betts-597. 1781 Nathaniel Green at Eutaw Springs. Copper. Extremely Fine. Plain edge. Light brown, rose and steel mostly retoned from a century-old cleaning. Fields still a bit bright and a bit dirty, but the eye appeal is still quite good. Some scratches visible around Greene's bust on obverse, vestiges of a lame attempt to remove inherent die flaws from the fields. Edges are nearly uniformly bevelled and show some nicks and unusual marks. Stahl describes the ANS specimen as having "several lines going around it and vise marks, perhaps the result of use for hubbing or in a photoengraving process such as that used for Wyatt's illustrations." Similarly, the silvered specimen in our offering of the New York Public Library Collection, October 1982, was described as "some marks on edge indicating metal flow problems." Perhaps these problems were present at striking through a poorly functioning collar, or conversely they may be post-striking and caused by, as suggested by Stahl, attempts to produce copies of this extremely rare medal since restrikes were never made by the original dies. The latter seems more likely, considering the eagerness with which 19th century collectors pursued the Comitia Americana series and the known attempts to reproduce the medal in illustrations or with copy dies. Without crossing the invisible line from bold supposition to absolute fantasy, the following scenario seems sensible: this original medal was the object of a copyist's attempt to produce copy dies. Scratches around the bust remain from an attempt to clear die flaws that would silly the fields of the copy dies. It was covered with the lubricant necessary to utilize a copy lathe, thereby leaving the medal greasy and filmy, much of which remains. A light cleaning, whose vestiges are still apparent, removed much but by no means all of the offensive grease. The damage on the edge, like that of other specimens, is resultant from being placed in a grip to hold the medal still for this copying process.

Begin reality, exit bold supposition: This medal is an extraordinarily important piece of numismatic history. Augustin Dupre was contracted to produce only 24 pieces by Thomas Jefferson in 1786, including the gold specimen for presentation to Nathaniel Greene. Greene died on June 19, 1786. His widow was presented with his medal and, according to Julian, Dupre's original dies in a beautiful gesture that resulted in Greene's medal dying with him. The other specimens were dispersed much like those of other Comita Americana medals, to friends of the republic and important figures of the day. Those original dies never struck another specimen; restrike dies were produced in Philadelphia in the late 1880s. The present specimen is one of a tiny number of survivors, probably fewer than 10, from this original mintage. Dupre's work is up to the high level of skill and talent shown by his more famous creations. The reverse shows a winged Victory, her face three-quarters right and strongly resembling the lovely portrait of Helios on the 4th century B.C.E. coinage of Rhodes, muscular and beautifully rendered. Leaves of olive are detailed down to their veins, and the overall presentation is a thing of beauty. The legend is simple and brief: SALUS REGIONUM AUSTRALIUM or "the safety of the Southern regions," with the exergual legend translating to "the enemy subdued at Eutaw Springs, September 8, 1781." Some very light die flaws are intact behind Victory's foot; on the Kessler Spangenberg specimen struck from copy dies, these flaws were removed with scratches nearly identical to those that effect areas of die flaws on this specimen's obverse.

Technically, this is a fascinating medal. Historically, perhaps no medal can be more evocative than one which can be placed into the hands of Augustin Dupre, Thomas Jefferson, and other persons of importance whose names are unknown to man, whose time and place of production can be precisely pinpointed. Numismatically, this medal has eluded enthusiastic collectors of American medals for literally hundreds of years and generated dramatic attempts to copy it. For all these reasons, and more that will inspire each individual differently, the present specimen is a highlight of the LaRiviere collection and worthy of attention from anyone who finds such objects irresistible.

Weight: 1045.5 grains. Diameter: 55.6 mm.

Stahl 88.

It is interesting to note that the curators of the Smithsonian's National Numismatic Collection, Vladimir and Elvira Clain-Stelanelli, in their work *Medals Commemorating Battles of the American Revolution* had no specimen of this medal to use as an illustration at their disposal.

By the following resolution on October 29, 1781, the Continental Congress awarded a gold medal to General Nathaniel Greene:

"Resolved, That the thanks of the United States in Congress assembled, be presented to Major General Greene, for his wise, decisive and magnanimous conduct in the action of the 8th of September last, near the Eutaw Springs, in South Carolina; in which, with a force inferior in number to that of the enemy, he obtained a most signal victory.[]

"Resolved, That a British standard be presented to Major General Greene, as an honorable testimony of his merit, and a golden medal emblematical of the battle and victory aforesaid."

Nathaniel Greene's career in the American Revolution is an interesting one; we will by no means tell the full story here. Greene was made Major General soon after Lexington and Concord and was the commander at Boston who welcomed Washington "before Boston" in July 1775. Greene accompanied Washington at Trenton, Princeton, and Brandywine. He was present at the 1777-78 winter camp at Valley Forge, and was made Quartermaster General of the armies the following spring. When Horatio Gates floundered ignominiously at Camden in 1780, Green was offered and accepted command of the Southern armies, a motley assemblage of militia-men with expiring terms and ill-supplied regulars. Greene put Cornwallis to chase and enabled Morgan's victory at Cowpens before defeating the British at the bloody battle of Eutaw Springs a month before Yorktown. Green, a Rhode Islander, retired to Georgia after the war's end and died at the age of 44 from sun exposure, according to many historians.

Purchased from Eugene Leipman on July 31, 1972.



1100 Betts-597. "1781" Nathaniel Greene at Eutaw Springs. Copper. Striking from 1886 dies. About Uncirculated. Plain edge. Glossy mahogany brown with smooth lustrous surfaces. A tiny spot of corrosion at the rim near the bottom of the reverse and a few dull digs on the cheeks are noted for accuracy, else just the usual light handling marks and excellent eye appeal for the assigned grade.

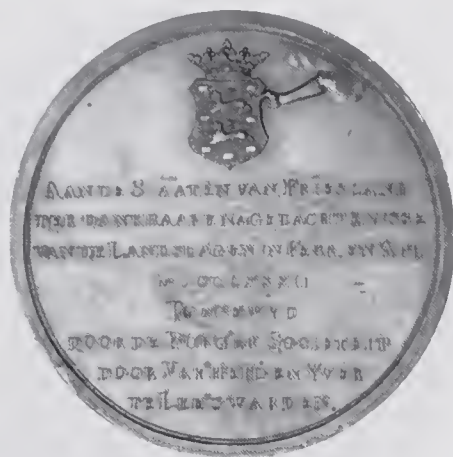
This piece was among the 40 pieces struck from these copy dies, most likely created at the mint by hubbing central design elements from an original and adding modern letting into the die. Some lapping lines are visible under magnification in the right obverse field where die flaws can be found on originals. Like collectors near the turn of the century when this restrike was made, modern collectors trying to complete the Comitia Americana series will be hard pressed to locate and purchase an original specimen. The present restrike fills not only the role for which it was intended, that of replacement, but also is interesting in its own right as a specimen of a scarce U.S. Mint medal and interesting case study in die manufacture.

Weight: 1226.9 grains. Diameter: 56.1 mm.

Stahl 90.

From NASCA's sale of July 1981, Lot 43.

Beautiful 1782 Betts-603



- 1101 Betts-602. 1782 Recognition of the U.S. by Frisia. Silver. About Uncirculated. Plain edge. Bright reflective pewter gray with pale violet highlights on the obverse and iridescent gold, green, rose, and blue on the reverse. Old scratch descending diagonally from rim on obverse noted along with some minor hairlines. Reverse rim nick at 7:00. This is a most interesting variety of a captivating subset of the Betts series, the medals struck in recognition of the recent independence of the nascent United States. The present variety was coined by Frisia, a state in the Netherlands where pro-American sentiment had swelled since 1780.

Its obverse presents an allegorical vignette nearly anepigraphically. Among three standing figures, the furthest left is representative of the new republic, her plumed head-dress a nod to the typical representation of the United States as an Indian princess. She holds a shield inscribed *DE VER EENIG DE STAATEN VAN NOORD AMERICA* or "the United States of North America" and stands atop a royal scepter and the manacles of a slave. She faces and shakes hands with a warrior in traditional Frisian dress, with tunic, dangling sword, and the bizarre pointed shoes of Rumpelstiltskin. He faces away from and gestures protectively towards the goddess Britannia as she holds a shield inscribed *GROOT BRITTANJEN* with her lion and snake in the grass nearby. A cupid carries a "free hat," a symbolic hat invested with the same meaning as the pileus or "liberty cap," towards America.

The reverse bears an eight line inscription proclaiming thanks for the resolution by which Friesland recognized the independence of the United States in February, 1782 and states that it is "dedicated by the Civic Society for Liberty and Glory at Leeuwarden," probably a contemporary pro-republican group. Betts cites a February 27, 1782 letter from Dutch envoy John Adams which mentions this resolution, stating "Friesland has at last taken the provincial resolution to acknowledge the independence, of which United America is in full possession." This medal is an important witness to the uncertain period before the Treaty of Paris, and as the first medal which refers to the new nation as "the United States" is certain to appeal to nearly any collector of United States issues.

Weight: 447.4 grains. Diameter: 44.2 mm.

A brief but interesting article about this medal appears in the July 1891 issue of the *American Journal of Numismatics*. It describes the medal and a bit of background history, and states that the American Minister in the Netherlands intended to restrike the medal in silver and bronze; it is not known if any such restrikes were ever produced. It also describes an occurrence of 18th-century college activism relating to the new American independence:

"At that time, the University of Francker (not yet suppressed by Napoleon) was at the height of its prosperity. The students set apart the day and night for poetry, songs, processions and fireworks in honor of the new American republic across the sea. Oratory, eloquence, and gunpowder ruled the day and night. Some of the speeches and the poems are still preserved in the Museum, and in the recently published history of the University, one of them (in Latin) reads in English 'One day's freedom is worth more than a century passed under the tyrant's yoke.'"

Purchased privately.



- 1102 Betts-603. 1782 Holland Receives John Adams as Envoy. Silver. Choice About Uncirculated. Plain edge. Silvery gray with gorgeous violet, light blue and gold highlights on reflective lustrous surfaces. The high points show only the lightest indication of wear and no individual mark is worthy of note, though the reverse field is lightly scattered with tiny nicks. The eye appeal is nothing short of superb.

Like other Dutch medals of the period herein offered, the die work on this piece was accomplished by Johann Georg Holtzhey and is as masterful as the works of Dupre and DuVivier engraved due south in Paris. The obverse inscription describes the event: *LIBERA SOROR SOLEMNI DECR. AGN. 19 APR. MDCCLXXXII* or "A free sister acknowledged by solemn decree April 19, 1782." While Betts calls the medal a commemorative of Adams' reception, the reception was secondary to the actual recognition of the United States by the Netherlands on that day. In allegory, the Netherlands is shown presenting a free hat and shaking hands with America, shown as a plumed Indian princess who holds a shield bearing 13 stars and the chained leash of the British lion, upon whose head America rests her foot. The altar between them displays the symbols of commerce and plenty. The reverse is also a beautiful rendering in attitude and art, showing the unicorn indicative of Britain who has broken his horn and now wears its crown around its neck after driving head-first into a massive rock. The legend *TYRANNIS VIRTUTE REPULSA SUB GALLIÆ AUSPICIIS* is translated by Betts as "Tyranny repelled by valor under the auspices of France." Holtzhey signed the medal at the exergue line as typical for his work.

John Adams' acceptance in the Netherlands as the representative of a free and independent nation was obviously a great diplomatic victory, but its most important by-product were the loans that Dutch bankers were then able to offer the nearly bankrupt United States. Just as the United States may not have won the Revolution without the French, it likewise probably would not have survived the difficult years that followed the war without the Dutch. This medal, immaculately preserved and accomplished in the finest style of the day, is a powerful statement of the affectionate friendship of the Americans and Dutch that was sealed by John Adams in April 1782 and should appeal to collectors on its historical and aesthetic merits to equal degree.

Weight: 438.6 grains. Diameter: 45.0 mm.

When John Adams presented himself to the president of the States General of the Netherlands on April 20, 1782, the day after the resolution passed that body to recognize the independence of the United States, he carried the following letter of introduction from the president of Congress:

"High and Mighty Lords

"The United States of America in Congress assembled, impressed with a high sense of the wisdom and magnanimity of your High mightinesses and of your inviolable attachment to the rights and liberties of mankind, and being desirous of cultivating the friendship of a nation eminent for its wisdom, justice and moderation, have appointed the honorable John Adams, late a delegate in Congress from the State of Massachusetts and a member of the com-

cil of that State, to be their minister plenipotentiary to reside near you, that he may give you more particular assurances of the great respect they entertain for you High Mightinesses. We beseech your High mightinesses to give entire credit to everything which our said Minister shall deliver on our part especially when he shall assure you of the Sincerity of our friendship and regard.

"We pray God to keep you High Mightinesses in his holy protection.

"Done at Philadelphia the first day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand and seven hundred and eighty one and in the fifth year of our Independence, By the Congress of the United States

"your friends

"Sam Huntington, President"

Two days later, Adams presented the same letter to Willem V, the Stadholder of the United Provinces and a close relative and friend of George III, and by May 12 Adams had moved his offices into the first American embassy at the Hague. Upon establishing the embassy, John Adams wrote in a letter "one thing, thank God, is certain. I have planted the American standard in the Hague."

From Almanzar's sale of June 1973, Lot 4656.



- 1104 Betts-605. 1782 Dutch-American Treaty of Commerce. Silver. Extremely Fine.** Plain edge. Attractive pewter gray with mottled highlights of violet and blue. Some lustre and reflectivity remains and the eye appeal is very pleasing. This medal is the smaller twin of Betts-604 and is identical town to very minor details, though this variety has a period after the reverse legend and different details in the grass in front of the monument. Scarce in this size and a very nice specimen.

Weight: 189.5 grains. Diameter: 33.7 mm.

Purchased from Dick August on May 2, 1981.

Rare 1782 Betts-606

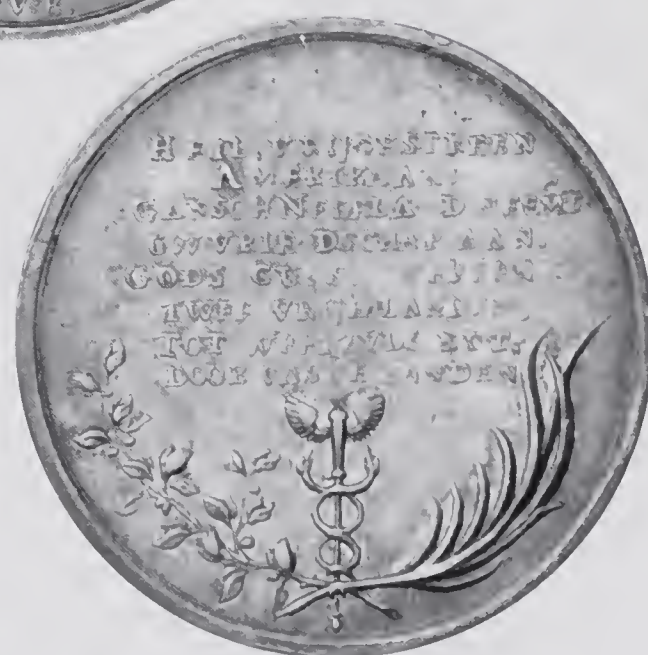
Vexillologically Important



- 1103 Betts-604. 1782 Dutch-American Treaty of Commerce. Silver. Choice About Uncirculated.** Plain edge. Fully reflective silver gray surfaces resplendently toned blue, violet and gold. Choice and full of visual appeal. On the heels of the acceptance of John Adams as ambassador and the recognition of the independence of the United States, Adams negotiated the terms of a Treaty of Commerce with the Netherlands "and the convention concerning recaptures," according to the Adams papers (which now reside for the use of researchers at the Massachusetts Historical Society). This medal speaks to this commercial agreement, which was similar in content to the Treaty of Amity and Commerce signed with France in 1778. The obverse of the medal reads FAUSTISSIMO FOEDERE JUNCTÆ DIE VII OCTOB. MDCCLXXXII or "United by a most auspicious treaty, October 7, 1782." It depicts Fame with her trumpet blaring, holding the juxtaposed shields of the United Netherlands and United States atop the sleeping lion of England. The reverse legend reads JUSTITIAM ET NON TEMNERE DIVOS S.P.Q. AMST. SACRUM or "Learn justice and not to despise the gods. By the Senate and people of holy Amsterdam." A monument stands at the left of the reverse inscribed PRODROMUS or "forerunner" with the shield of the city of Amsterdam. Mercury, god of commerce, places a wreath on the shield while below lays a scene with an anchor and fruit representing trade and plenty, and a rooster representing France which holds the augur of magicians and prophets, familiar from the lepton of Pontius Pilate. The die work by Holtzhey is superb as expected. A beautiful specimen of this impressive and interesting medal.

Weight: 428.1 grains. Diameter: 45.2 mm.

Purchased from Ralph Goldstone.



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1105 Betts-606. 1782 Dutch-American Treaty of Commerce. Silver. Choice Very Fine.** Plain edge. Pale pewter gray with golden lustre remaining in protected areas. Very nice eye appeal for the assigned grade with only a tiny nick in the obverse field and some minor hairlines worth noting. Reverse shows some

central weakness but the legend remains legible. While not accomplished by Holtzhey's skilled hand, the somewhat amateurish engraving on this piece has a charm and character all its own and is reminiscent of many of the patriotic woodcuts and cartoons of the period. A figure representative of the Netherlands sits at right atop trade goods and leaning on the Dutch shield while a pole topped with a pileus or liberty cap, a familiar sight to any American minimalist, leans behind her. She extends her hand to accept an olive branch from an unusual masculine allegory of America, who holds a flag pole topped with a swallowtail shaped 13 star American flag. This flag, depicted only 5 years after its authorization by Congress in June 1777, may be the earliest medallion depiction of the now revered "Stars and Stripes," as Betts calls it, and likely among the earliest European illustrations of the flag in any medium. The figure of America stands in front of a barrel, "filled to overflowing with Indian corn" in Betts's words. The obverse legend translates "Behold, here is my right hands, and the pledge of my good faith with the date of the Treaty of Commerce below. The reverse features Mercury's caduceus, symbolic of commerce, with a rhyming quatrain that is translated in Betts as "Hail to you, American, who have fought out your freedom. All Netherlands accepts your friendship. God's grace unite two free lands, to mutual good, through solid ties," which is borrowed from a song sung to American sailors at Amsterdam in 1777 according to a note in Betts citing Van Loon.

Unlike the fine medals of Holtzhey, this medal likely had no "official" status but instead was a privately produced souvenir medalet for sale to the general public at the time. The medal is signed E.V.B. in the obverse exergue by an unknown medallist unlisted by Forrer. Its depictions and wording communicate a fascinating earnestness, and its depiction of the American flag is historically notable and perhaps is the first such flag depicted in metal. A precious piece of Revolutionary history, and worthy of excited interest from specialists.

Weight: 193.4 grains. Diameter: 32.2 mm.

Vexillology is defined by the North American Vexillological Association as "the scientific study of flags," an interesting field that incorporates history, heraldry, and dozens of corollary fields similar to numismatics.

Purchased from Richard Margolis on August 16, 1972.



- 1106 Betts-607. 1782 Holland Declares America Free. Silver. Choice About Uncirculated.** Plain edge. Reflective and lustrous pewter gray with bright gold and pale violet highlights. Tiny lamination, as struck, at DER of NEDERLAND on obverse. A beautiful little medalet which Betts has quite aptly named. George Parsons, whose marvelous collection was sold by Henry Chapman in 1914, translated the legends as "the Netherlands declares America to be free. It is the general wish."

This piece was designed and marketed by J. M. Lageman who "was a dealer in gold and silver and eked out his income by the manufacture and sale of toys [basically anything miniature], and by engraving cards for weddings, balls, visiting, etc." according to Betts; he also was responsible for Betts-573. Lageman obviously thought this sentiment of support for American independence was one that would be saleable, so we may assume that a significant percentage of the Dutch population would have been strongly pro-American. The allegory is

familiar: a female figure holds the caduceus, emblematic of commerce, a spear surmounted by a pileus or liberty cap, and "a bundle of seven arrows, the emblem of the United Provinces." The cornucopia and what looks like watermelons (though Betts calls it a cactus) represent plenty, and Betts follows Van Loon by suggesting the background city is meant to be Philadelphia "but it bears no resemblance to that city." The reverse is more austere with a trident, a symbol of the sea, supporting two flags with trade goods at the base and a boat behind.

An interesting pro-American piece which implies that hopes for profitable trade underlies the widespread support for the American cause.

Weight: 210.3 grains. Diameter: 34.4 mm.

Purchased from Ted Craige.

Pleasing Betts-608 in Silver

The "Other" Libertas Americana



- 1107 Betts-608. 1783 Treaty of Paris. Silver. About Uncirculated.**

Plain edge. Deep pewter gray with a bluish tint. Reflective fields retain good lustre and show only minor marks and hairlines. Very pleasing eye appeal. The obverse of this medal with the beloved LIBERTAS AMERICANA legend shows King Louis XVI in his fleured robes gesturing towards a pillar surmounted by the "free hat" common in Dutch depictions. A female allegory of America hangs a shield of 13 horizontal bars, reminiscent of the "Bar copper," thereupon. The date of the Treaty of Paris is in the exergue below. The reverse shows Pallas Athena, goddess of wisdom, holding the shields of Great Britain, France, the Netherlands and Spain together on a ribbon while the Gorgon-bedecked shield of war is left dismissively below. The legend COMMUNI CONSENSU, or "by common consent" refers to the fact that American liberty was approved by these four participating nations. Betts claims "the initials of the die-cutter are indistinctly engraved, and [Van Loon] is unable to decipher them." The initials are the OE monogram of Johann Leonhard Oexlein of Nuremberg, "a celebrated medallist and gem-engraver" according to Forrer, who credits this Peace of Paris medal to him. Oexlein was "employed by many princely houses" and was active until his death in 1787. This piece may have been engraved with a German audience in mind, though the presence of the "free hat" may suggest the amenable Dutch were the main audience for the medal. The piece was likely a mass-market piece, available in silver or in plebian white metal and produced in larger quantities than many other American reference medals of the period. It is interesting to note the European perspective displayed by this medal of the King of France gesturing approvingly at American nationhood before a nearly supplicant America; France is given much of the credit for America's independence by this medal. A lovely specimen of this medallion

witness to the moment of American independence.

Weight: 393.4 grains. Diameter: 45.6 mm.

By the terms of the Peace of Paris, all participating nations recognized the independence of the United States (which are all individually named therein) and order all hostilities cease. The treaty reinforces the American right to fish the Grand Banks and the rights of both British and American vessels on the Mississippi River, already a primary trade route on the continent. Other loose ends, such as actual boundaries and the legality of pre-existing debts, were also tied up. The treaty was signed by David Hartley, who was a member of Parliament, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, and John Jay on September 3, 1783.

Purchased from Presidential Coin and Antique Company on November 3, 1977.

Betts-608 in Tin



- 1108 Betts-608. 1783 Treaty of Paris. White metal. Choice Extremely Fine.** Plain edge. Copper plug at exergual line, typical for the issue. Pale pewter gray with bright lustre in protected areas of the design. Well detailed and showing an low concentration of contact marks for medals struck in this composition. At the time this medal was marketed, a specimen in white metal would have been an inexpensive substitute for a silver example and would have appealed to working-class fans of the American cause. Scarce this choice in white metal, and worthy of a place in any collection of American coins or medals or in the holdings of anyone intrigued by the moment of American nationhood.

Weight: 440.3 grains. Diameter: 45.4 mm.

Purchased from Richard Margolis.

Scarce 1783 Betts-610

Impressive Condition

By Reich the Elder



- 1109 Betts-610. 1783 Treaty of Paris. White metal. Choice Mint State.** Plain edge. Copper plug at exergual line, typical for the issue. Bright lustrous silver gray with extraordinary reflectivity. Immaculate surfaces for a medal in this composition and incredibly choice overall. Writing in the *A/N*, George Parsons said of this medal "from the variety of designs and inscriptions which are crowded upon the two sides of the medal, it seems as if the author proposed to write a poem in celebration of the Peace but finally concluded to publish a medal."

The design is indeed a bit busy and full of interesting allegories, making this medal a particularly interesting one to examine at length. The obverse shows two standing figures with a legend meaning "thus concord unites enemies as friends." The right figure holds an olive branch and is surrounded by the shields of the Netherlands, Great Britain (represented by the harp of Ireland, oddly), Spain, and France. The left figure holds a pole topped by a pileus or liberty cap and has the American shield of 13 horizontal bars at her feet. Betts interprets the right figure to represent peace, but it may just as well symbolize all Europe who has come to peace with the new nation America. At left and right, towns bombard approaching vessels; these represent Port Mahon in the Balearic Islands off Spain and Gibraltar with appropriate abbreviations (MAHO and GIBR) at each. Above an image of the all-seeing eye the legend reads SIC HOSTES CONCORDIA JUNGIT AMICOS or "thus concord unites enemies as friends." The exergue shows a detailed city scene "intended for Paris, where the treaty was signed" according to Betts with an exergual legend PRUDENTIA & FATIS or "prudence and fate." The reverse shows Peace, who holds her olive branch and cornucopia, standing over Mars or War with more flying bombs and passive ships in the background. The legend ENSIBUS EX MARTIS LUX PACIS LETA RESURGIT or "from the swords of Mars, the joyful light of peace rises again" refers to this scene; the legend continues OPE VULCANI or "by the aid of Vulcan," the god of industry, in the exergue with the date 1783. A cherub holds a laurel and trumpet which announces FIAT PAX or "let there be peace." Brown and Forrer both attribute authorship of this medal to Johann Christian Reich, father of Johann Mattheus Reich or John Reich, the future engraver at the U.S. Mint.

With its remarkable variety of allegories and celebratory legends relating to the Treaty of Paris, in addition to its superlative condition and well-known engraver, this medal should be of great interest.

Weight: 369.1 grains. Diameter: 43.1 mm.

Despite the fact that the right figure holds a liberty cap and is identified by its 13 bar shield as America, *BHM* incorrectly calls the figure a representation of Bavaria.

Purchased from Ted Craig.

Silver 1783 Betts-612

France Celebrates the Treaty of Paris



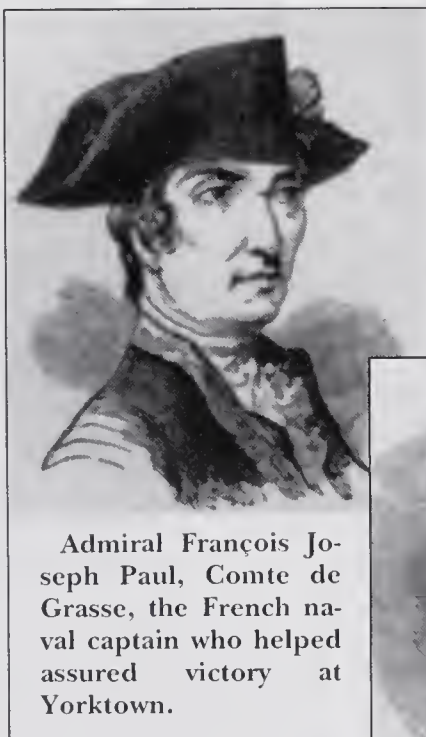
1110 Betts-612. 1783 Treaty of Paris. Silver. Very Fine. Plain edge. Lovely silver gray with subtle violet and blue highlights. Lightly worn but retaining excellent eye appeal. Tiny rim nicks noted at 8:00 and 10:00 on obverse, but they are scarcely noticeable. Shallow dig at upper left reverse. A small die flaw, as struck, is noted on the rim above X of REX on obverse. This piece probably served as a pocket piece; it is doubtful it would have circulated at 50 grains above the standard weight for an ecu. Like the previous few medals, this medal commemorated the successful conclusion of the Treaty of Paris in 1783, but this time from the official French perspective. Betts records only one specimen of this variety, a gold piece in the Bibliotheque Nationale that was presumably a gift for either Louis XVI or Marie Antoinette.

The obverse shows Louis XVI with his usual title of "most Christian king," while the reverse shows Peace standing with olive branch and cornucopia with the legend PAX FRANCIAM INTER ET ANGLIAM VERSALIIS MDCCLXXXIII or "Peace between France and England, Versailles, 1783." The prow of the galley upon which Peace stands refers to the primarily naval struggle between England and France during the American Revolution. Without the presence of the French fleet under Admiral François Joseph Paul, Comte de Grasse at the Battle of the Virginia Capes in September 1781, the victory over Cornwallis at Yorktown would have been an impossibility. The figure of Peace was accomplished by DuVivier, who more than a decade later would create the 1796 Castorland pieces using a nearly identical image to represent Ceres. This piece is an important medal, struck by our primary ally and sponsor of our independence, and is rare in this composition. A splendid medal.

Weight: 508.8 grains. Diameter: 41.8 mm.

The French naval support received by the upstart Americans, whose navy was a bit lacking at the time in comparison to the powerful British forces, was absolutely pivotal to the cause of independence. The fleet first arrived in 1778 under Charles Henri Jean-Baptiste, Comte d'Estaing, who directed the naval actions off New York and Newport before leaving to wreak havoc against British forces in the West Indies. Between 1779 and 1781, the French navy bombarded British forces at Savannah, landed reinforcing ground troops at Newport that joined Washington in Virginia, and blockaded Chesapeake Bay, where the British had landed their reinforcements during the 1777 campaign that terrorized Pennsylvania. The Americans tried to repay the contribution of French sailors, in some small part, with a gift to the French navy of a 74-gun frigate in 1782 that was named *America*.

Purchased from Eugene Leipman.



Admiral François Joseph Paul, Comte de Grasse, the French naval captain who helped assured victory at Yorktown.

Nice 1783 Betts-612 in Copper

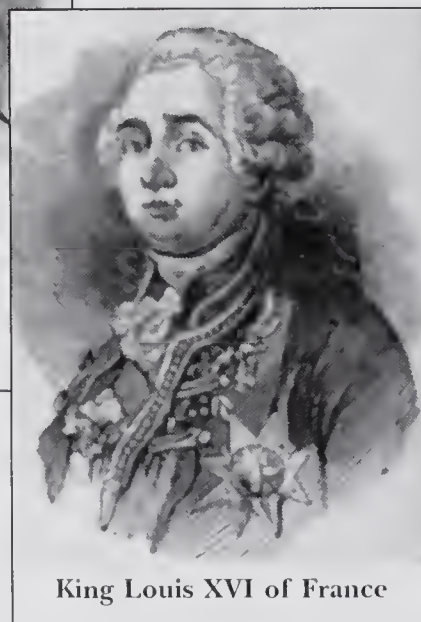
Mint State



1111 Betts-612. 1783 Treaty of Paris. Copper. Choice Mint State. Plain edge. Absolutely beautiful medium chocolate brown with golden and violet highlights on reflective surfaces. Remarkable eye appeal and choice in every respect. A stripe of toning in the right reverse field is noted only because, when photographed, may look like a scratch, which it is not. A tiny die flaw on rim above X of REX is identical to the flaw on the silver specimen that precedes it. DuVivier's rendition of Peace and the galley upon which she stands are finely detailed and quite enjoyable to view under magnification. A lovely specimen of this historic medal in copper whose state of preservation is unimprovable.

Weight: 515.8 grains. Diameter: 41.9 mm.

Purchased from James King.



King Louis XVI of France

1783 FELICITAS BRITANNIA ET AMERICA Medal

The Very Rare Linked Rings Medal

Probable American Origin



1112 Betts-614. 1783 Treaty of Paris. Pewter. Fine or so. Ornamented edge imitative of Spanish 8 reales and 1776 Continental Currency antecedents. Even olive-tinted pewter gray with glossy surfaces, unlike the heavily laminated surfaces typical for this variety. Rim bump near 9:00 on reverse. Two tiny attempted punctures on the reverse near 1:00 and 4:00; oddly, the Griffie:557 piece (C4 1995) had a nearly identical attempted puncture at 11:00. Weakness of strike apparent between 1:00 and 3:00 on obverse and on corresponding area of reverse, though obverse legends are still legible and major design elements are plain. The majority of known specimens of this important rarity are in very low grades, with the Mint State British Museum and the Brand-Ford specimens being notable exceptions.

This important medal is a part of the Treaty of Paris subseries of Betts medals, and is unique among them for its probable American origin. The obverse of this medal displays the legend by which this variety is known: FELICITAS BRITANNIA ET AMERICA or the clumsy "Happiness, Britain and America." With a city scene in the background, probably London as suggested by Betts with the dome of St. Paul's plain, an Indian princess representative of America advances towards the seated Britannia as a dove bearing an olive branch flies between them. The exergue features the date MDCCLXXXIII SEPT 4, the day after the actual signing of the Treaty of Paris. This incorrect date lends credence to the theory of its American origin; this date may actually be that of a correspondence from Paris announcing the signing of the peace treaty by one of the American representatives at Versailles. The engraving is amateurish and unsigned. The reverse is imitative of the reverse of the 1776 Continental Currency pieces, configuring the rings identically to Newman's reverse C though the dies are not the same. On this piece the reverse is slightly misaligned towards 2:00.

The linked rings motif of the Continental Currency would have had the most weighty importance to an American audience who would have been familiar with it from paper currency, regimental flags, newspaper illustrations, and perhaps even the struck Continental Currency issues; the earliest known illustration of the design in Europe is from a 1784 Ger-

man text, as published by Eric Newman in *CNL* 67. A complete study of the motif by David McBride appears in the November 1979 issue of *The Numismatist*. Though there is no absolute proof of American origin or distribution, there would have been an emotional gravity and especial satisfaction to Americans by juxtaposing the announcement of legal American independence by the Treaty of Paris with the 13 linked rings that were so intimately connected to the Revolutionary cause. For this reason, we are most comfortable with the attribution of this medal as being produced in America for an American audience. Medals in the earliest years of the republic which celebrated figures from the Revolution found an easy audience, and medals which celebrated the Treaty of Paris were produced in quantity in Europe for European audiences. It would be unusual, to say the least, if no entrepreneur took advantage of the ready American market for a medal commemorating the treaty which granted them their independence. We believe, however, that the Betts-614 variety was produced for exactly such a purpose and audience. As such, its historic importance is immense. For those who collect medallic art, this medal is likely to be of little interest except as a representative example of primitivism. For those, however, who are captivated by the medallic witness this medal represents, and its unique tie with the Continental Currency issues, this medal is in a category by itself. Its extraordinary rarity, with only a dozen or so known, compounds its attractiveness to the serious numismatic connoisseur.

Weight: 372.1 grains. Diameter: 41.1 mm. Die rotation: 230°.

The cataloguing of the Norweb specimen, sold by us as Lot 2459 in the March 1988 Norweb II sale, included a census of 12 known specimens. We may add no new specimens to that list at this time, and recommend those interested to that comprehensive listing.

The present cataloguer (John Kraljevich) gleefully accepts the ability to correct his own error in pedigree attribution made in the above referenced 1995 Griffie sale, wherein the #12 piece on the Norweb census (ex NASCA 11, 87-220) was mistakenly thought to be the #10 piece "from a major eastern collection."

BHM calls this piece RRRR, a description usually saved for piece thought to be unique or nearly so. Laurence Brown concedes "this piece was probably struck in America and is included here for the sake of completeness."

Purchased from Eugene Leipman on July 31, 1972. Earlier from the 1953 CSNA sale, May 1953, Lot 1304.

Classic 1783 Libertas Americana Medal

Silver

The Most Famous Betts Medal



1113 Betts-615. 1783 Libertas Americana. Silver. Choice About Uncirculated. Plain edge. Light pewter gray with deep olive and pale gold highlights on reflective surfaces. Central reverse toned rose. Some superficial marks and tiny scratches do nothing to detract from the superlative eye appeal displayed by this specimen.

For American numismatists, there is perhaps no more recognizable medal than Augustin Dupre's singular masterpiece of the Libertas Americana medal. Its main obverse device, a high relief image of Liberty depicted as a young woman with her hair loosed and a pileus behind her, inspired the creation of the Liberty Cap design that graced our copper coins and the Flowing Hair devices on the earliest silver emissions of the U.S. Mint. The design is magical in its simplicity; the figure of Liberty implies every nuance of the meaning of "American Liberty" with the 4 JUL 1776 date that is universally connected with the same concept. Dupre has signed his art at the truncation of the bust.

Although the reverse device was designed by Esprit-Antoine Gibelin, "a noted fresco painter" accorded to the Clain-Stefannellis, the concept is thought to be Benjamin Franklin's own. The Libertas Americana medal was Franklin's pet project while in Paris in 1782 and 1783; he had hoped Congress would cover the expenses of a medallic memorial to the success at Yorktown and include it in the Comitia Americana series. Franklin wrote to Robert R. Livingstone on March 4, 1782, describing the medal he sought to create:

"This puts me in mind of a medal I have had a mind to strike, since the late great event you gave me an account of, representing the United States by the figure of an infant Hercules in his cradle, strangling the two serpents; and France by that of Minerva, sitting by as his nurse, with her spear and helmet, and her robe speckled with a few fleur de lis. The extinguishing of two entire armies in one war is what has rarely happened, and it gives a presage of the future force of our growing empire."

The sketches showing Gibelin's rendering of Franklin's idea reveal that Dupre made some changes to the design. As the devices appear on this medal, they show standing Minerva standing left and leaning over the child Hercules, who strangles the snakes representative of the armies of Burgoyne and Cornwallis. Minerva's fleured shield wards off the British lion who lunges towards the child with her tail between her legs. Dupre has signed on the exergual line, below which is noted the dates of the victories at Saratoga and Yorktown. The reverse legend NON SINE DIIS ANIMOSUS INFANS or "The child is not courageous without divine aid" was suggested by Sir William Jones, an intimate of Samuel Johnson and Edward

Gibbon, as is revealed by a letter from Franklin to Jones dated March 17, 1783 which reads in part:

"The engraving of my medal, which you know was projected before the peace, is but just finished. None are yet struck in hard metal, but will be in a few days. In the meantime, having this opportunity by Mr. Penn, I send you one of the epreuves [likely tin splasers]. You will see that I have profited by some of your ideas, and adopted the mottoes you were so kind as to furnish."

If this beautiful medal existed in an historical vacuum, it would still be avidly sought after by numismatists in America and abroad. This, luckily, is not the case, as much of Franklin's correspondence on the medal has survived to the present age. It has been recorded, for example, that the medal was first struck in late March 1783, and in April Franklin sent a silver specimen to Rohan, the Grand Master of the Order of Malta. Rohan responded to Franklin on June 21, 1783 and thanked him for the medal saying "I received with the most lively sensibility the medal which your Excellency sent me, and the value I set upon this acquisition leaves my gratitude unbounded. This monument of American liberty has a distinguished place in my cabinet." Franklin also sent a silver specimen on April 15, 1783, by way of Robert Livingstone, to Elias Boudinot, the president of Congress. He noted in the same letter "I have presented one to the King, and another to the Queen, both in gold, and one in silver to each of the ministers, as a monumental acknowledgment, which may go down to future ages, of the obligations we are under to this nation."

Today, the Libertas Americana medal in silver is one of the most dignified of all numismatic items from the Era of Independence. The gold specimens given to Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette have not been seen since the French Revolution of 1789, leaving silver strikings as the most noble form of this most noble of medals. The prevailing wisdom estimates that 50 specimens in silver were struck. While this estimate is likely too low, it is doubtful that more than 30 or so survive today in all grades, many of which were carried as pocket pieces or damaged over the years by harsh cleaning. The present specimen is a choice and lovely one, a joy to observe from arm's length or under magnification. It is the potential centerpiece for an advanced collection of American coins or medals of the Revolutionary period, or stands alone as a very desirable artifact of Benjamin Franklin and the earliest days of American independence. Today, as in 1783, "this monument of American liberty" will have a distinguished place in any cabinet.

Weight: 818.4 grains. Diameter: 47.7 mm.

Stahl 92.

All genuine Libertas Americana medals show a small cud below 4 in the obverse exergue, though early medal collectors sometimes removed die flaws by filing such cuds into invisibility. Another tiny die flaw is visible behind the head of Liberty near the NA of AMERICANA. While no exhaustive study of the die states of the Libertas Americana has yet been attempted (but would undoubtedly be worthwhile for research), the cud is always present and grows a very small amount as it approaches the latest die state. As this cud is the highest point on that part of the medal, it typically wears first and sometimes changes shape through friction. It is not known how long the Libertas Americana medals were struck, but since Franklin paid for the dies and tried to recoup his money by selling specimens and advertising his productions, it is doubtful any were struck (at additional expense to him) after his departure from Paris in 1785. The Clain-Stefanelli work records that "three hundred copies of a four page pamphlet describing the medal in French as well as in English was printed by Franklin in Paris, followed shortly afterward by a broadsheet showing in an engraving the two sides of the medal accompanied by an explanatory text in French."

Purchased from Eugene Leipman on May 1, 1981.

Superb Libertas Americana Medal in Copper



(photo reduced)

- 1114 Betts-615. 1783 Libertas Americana. Copper. Choice Mint State.** Plain edge. Beautiful reflective chocolate brown with bright highlights of violet and light blue. Simply extraordinary eye appeal (though, like all children, all Libertas Americana medals are beautiful) with a short nick in front of Liberty's nose and two parallel nicks above the lion's head on the reverse noted to identify this specimen in the future.

The Libertas Americana medal in copper is the single most popular medal in the entire Betts series. Even Franklin, the creator of the medal and its most vocal sponsor, wrote to Robert Livingstone, "I enclose ... one in copper for yourself, the impression in copper is thought to appear best, and you will soon receive a number for the members." Writing to Elias Boudinot, the president of Congress and later the director of the Mint, in September 1783, Franklin assured him that "I have sent by different opportunities so many as that every member of Congress might have one." Traditions that Franklin passed along a number of copper specimens to George Washington to distribute as he saw fit have not been documented, but are not outside the realm of possibility. There does exist a recorded case of Martha Washington proudly displaying a Libertas Americana medal to a guest at Mount Vernon in June 1797; this may be the silver specimen now resident in the Massachusetts Historical Society.

Rather substantial quantities of Libertas Americana medals in copper were struck. Estimates are usually in the 200 to 500 range, though the higher number is almost certainly closer to the undocumented truth. Today, perhaps a few hundred survive in all states from corroded and well worn to nearly perfect Mint State; most are in the EF-AU range. Due to the popularity of this medal, finding specimens in this superb state of preservation is a difficult proposition. The present specimen is a very choice one and should see spirited bidding activity when it crosses the auction block.

Weight: 700.7 grains. Diameter: 47.8 mm.
Stahl 91.

Purchased from Eugene Leipman on May 1, 1981.

- 1115 As Betts-615. 1976 Libertas Americana. Paris Mint copy. Silver. As struck.** Edge: COPY OF DESIGN BY BENJAMIN FRANKLIN: ORIGINALS STRUCK IN 1783: S.I.C.M.M. PARIS - FRANCE - GO No 0160. Matte silver gray. This copy was struck in 1976 to commemorate the French-American relationship on the occasion of the Bicentennial. American marketing was sponsored by First Coinvestors, Inc. 500 pieces were struck in silver and individually numbered on the edge: the present specimen is number 160. Infrequently offered and a beautiful representation of Dupre's design. (Total: 1 medal. 1 original box of issue).

Weight: 3661.4 grains. Diameter: 76.9 mm.

The first struck of these medals, number 000, now resides in the Museum of the American Numismatic Association.

From Presidential Coin and Antique Company's sale of June 1991, Lot 498.

Rare Betts-619 in Copper



- 1116 Betts-619. 1784 Benjamin Franklin Born Boston. Copper. Extremely Fine.** Plain edge. Medium chocolate and mahogany brown with glossy surfaces and some darker reverse mottling. Several light handling marks, the most serious of which is a scratch in the left obverse field, and a few areas of light corrosion around protected areas of the legends. The eye appeal is overall quite nice for this very scarce medal. Boldly double struck to bring up the full detail of this very high relief die. With its plain edge, this piece was struck at the Paris Mint before 1842, though the double striking indicates it was struck before the implementation of steam technology at Paris ca. 1830.

According to the Clain-Stefanellis, "more than a casual acquaintance tied Franklin to Dupre" and they were close friends during the time Franklin spent in Paris living near Dupre. This medal was engraved by Dupre in Franklin's honor as a celebration of Franklin's life work of political reform and science. The obverse depicts an aged Franklin, who was 78 years old in 1784, with the legends BENJ. FRANKLIN NATUS

BOSTON XVII JAN. MDCCVI or "Benjamin Franklin born at Boston, January 17, 1706." The reverse depicts "a winged genius" who gestures towards a bolt of lightning attracted by a lightning rod atop a round temple and to a sceptre and crown broken on the ground before him. The legend reads ERIPUIT COELO FULMEN SCEPTRUMQUE TYRANNIS or "He snatched the thunderbolt from heaven and the sceptre from tyrants" in a reference to Epicurus. In the exergue, Augustin Dupre has signed it saying in translation "Augustin Dupre engraved and issued this in the year 1784." Just as the Libertas Americana was Franklin's monument to his native land, this medal was Dupre's monument to his friend Franklin.

While Paris Mint restrikes of this medal turn up with some frequency, plain edge early strikings of Betts-619 are extremely scarce and are quite a bit rarer than the Betts-620 variety. With its remarkable portrait of Franklin taken from life and its affectionate and visually interesting reverse design, this medal is a worthy memorial to one of America's greatest heroes by one of the greatest artists of the age.

Weight: 673.7 grains. Diameter: 45.9 mm.

Stahl-unlisted. The ANS owns no specimens of this variety from the original striking.

Greenslet GM-35. Fuld FR.M.NL.5.

A tiny cud is visible over SCE of SCEPTRUM on the reverse, smaller than that on other pre-1842 strikings of this medal seen.

Betts quotes Charles Blanc's description of the portrait of Franklin by Dupre on the obverse of this medal:

"He has indicated the flat parts, the relaxation of the muscles and, as it were, the quivering of the flesh, so as to convey an exact idea of the age of the model. He has consciously represented the lines which the finger of time imprints upon the countenance, but above all he has given us with wonderful fidelity the physiognomy of the American sage, his shrewd simplicity, his sagacity, and his expression of serene uprightness."

Purchased from New Netherlands Coin Company.

Important Tin Clichés of Betts-619

Unfinished Reverse Die



1117 Betts-619. 1784 Benjamin Franklin Born Boston. Tin. Obverse and reverse clichés. About Uncirculated or so. Plain edge. Each is light pewter gray with some minor spotting and light marks, but the overall eye appeal on each is very nice. Clichés, sometimes called splashers, are typically thin strikings, sometimes showing traces of newspaper backing, made to test various stages of a die during its preparation. The present specimens shows some vestiges of unidentifiable paper and the obverse bears the remains of a wax seal.

The obverse cliché is identical to the finished obverse as it was used to strike the Betts-619 and Betts-620 varieties. The reverse cliché, however, shows the reverse before the exergual lettering was placed into the die and shows only a grid-like formation of very lightly engraved lines that was probably used to

assist in centering of the legend. As an artifact of a precise point in the production of this die, this piece is likely unique.

Before the dies were finished for the Libertas Americana medal, Franklin was known to send what he called "epreuves" to interested parties. Franklin was likely referring to what are today called clichés, and the present specimens were probably for either Dupre's use alone or to be shown to an interested party, perhaps even Franklin himself, before the dies were in their finished state. As such, they are an extraordinary piece of Frankliniana or Dupreiana, extremely rare, and worthy of inclusion in any advanced collection of numismatic Americana.

Obverse cliché: Weight: 283.9 grains. Diameter: 46.6 mm. Thickness at rim: 1.6 to 2.3 mm.

Reverse cliché: Weight: 116.0 grains. Diameter: 45.7 mm. Thickness at rim: 0.4 to 0.7 mm.

Stahl-unlisted.

Greenslet GM-35. Fuld FR.M.NL.5.

The usual reverse cud over SCEPTRUM is not present on this piece, so a perfect die state of this die did exist at some point, albeit before the dies were finished and hardened. A tiny die flaw beneath the N of BOSTON on the obverse is already present on this cliché, as are several small flaws behind Franklin's head.

Purchased from George Fuld on March 24, 1972.

Beautiful 1786 Betts-620

Rare Silver Original



1118 Betts-620. 1786 Benjamin Franklin Born Boston. Silver. Choice About Uncirculated. Plain edge. Choice silver gray with delightful highlights of violet and blue on lustrous surfaces. The reverse is more toned than the obverse. Immense visual appeal and no problems worthy of note. A truly superb specimen in all respects.

This variety, struck at the Paris Mint beginning in 1786, uses the same Dupre-designed obverse of Betts-619 and a newly configured reverse which utilizes the same legends without Dupre's "winged genius" design. The present specimen was struck before 1832 at the Paris Mint, based upon its plain edge, but after the silver specimen struck before Jefferson's departure from Paris and included in the silver set of medals given in 1790 to George Washington. That specimen, now in the Massachusetts Historical Society, shows a die flaw only under I of ERIPUIT on the reverse while the present specimen shows the die flaw now extending to the left serif of T. After 1832, the Paris Mint "adopted the practice of stamping the gold and silver restrikes with an identifying mark, and, in 1841, extended this to all metals and added the name of the metal in French," according to Alan Stahl.

While silver specimens of Betts-620 from this earliest period are offered very infrequently, appearances of specimens with this extraordinary eye appeal and condition appear even more

rarely. While not truly a part of the Comitia Americana series, many modern collectors follow the lead of Thomas Jefferson and include specimens of this variety in their collections of early American medals. The present example is a very choice one and would be nearly impossible to improve upon for advanced collectors of the series.

Weight: 940.7 grains. Diameter: 45.9 mm.

Stahl 108.

Greenslet GM-33. Fuld FR.M.NL.3.

From Presidential Coin and Antique Company's sale of May 1979, Lot 456.

Nice 1786 Betts-620

Original Striking in Copper



- 1119 Betts-620. 1786 Benjamin Franklin Born Boston. Copper. About Uncirculated.** Plain edge. Pleasing medium chocolate brown with some rosy and brassy highlights. Perhaps cleaned long ago, but quite natural and attractive in appearance. Tiny nick at 3:00 on obverse rim noted for accuracy. A very pleasing specimen struck very early in the life of this die pair, with the reverse die flaw under IT of ERIPUIT nearly congruent to that on the Washington specimen in silver and earlier than that offered in the previous lot. This piece has numerous light lint marks on the obverse around the Franklin portrait, as issued. While not as rare as silver strikings from the original dies, the copper pieces are still quite scarce and avidly sought after. A superb specimen of this popular and historic Franklin portrait medal

Weight: 695.9 grains. Diameter: 45.8 mm.

Stahl 109.

Greenslet GM-33. Fuld FR.M.NL.3.

Purchased from Richard Margolis on March 13, 1971.



- 1120 Betts-620. 1786 Benjamin Franklin Born Boston. Copper. Paris Mint restrike ca. 1845-1860. Choice Mint State.** CUIVRE edge with "pointing hand" privy mark, ca. 1845-1860. Lovely medium brown with lustrous violet iridescence. Some verdigris noted in protected areas of reverse design for accuracy. This piece was struck from Fupre's original reverse die, now showing sizable flaws under ON of BOSTON and scattered around the portrait of Franklin, and a copy reverse die with more modern lettering and no flaw under IT or ERIPUIT. Franklin remained a very popular character in France throughout the 19th century, and sales of such restrikes were quite brisk. Still, few specimens remain in this splendid state of preservation today. Greenslet estimates that between 150 and 250 exist in bronze. An impressive specimen of this scarce medal.

Weight: 687.8 grains. Diameter: 46.2 mm.

While Stahl attributes this reverse die to "ca. 1900-present," the present specimen is easily and unquestionably dated to the 1845-1860 time period based upon its privy mark.

Greenslet GM-34. Fuld FR.M.NL.4.

From Coin Galleries' sale of November 1992, Lot 2205.

Pleasing Franklin Sansom Peace Medal



- 1121 Betts-621. "1783" (ca. 1808) Franklin-Sansom Peace of Paris. Copper. About Uncirculated.** Plain edge. Rich dark brown with some lighter color and lustre apparent at the peripheries. Tiny rim nick at 6:00 on reverse noted for accuracy, and a few obverse handling marks blend in to the field. The dies for this medal were engraved and designed by John Reich while in the employ of Joseph Sansom, a Philadelphia merchant who marketed medals in the first decade of the 19th century, and led directly to his hiring as Assistant Engraver of the Philadelphia Mint. The present specimen was created at the Philadelphia Mint, "probably ... by early in 1808" according to Julian, by muling the obverse of the Franklin American Beaver medal with the reverse of the Sansom Peace medal, which was struck to commemorate "the date of the acquisition of independence" according to Sansom's original 1805 advertisement for the 1783 Peace medal. Greenslet estimates that between 75 and 149 specimens exist in this composition. A very nice specimen of this popular early Mint medal, called "a mule of a later

date” by Marvin and Low, and the final collectible number in the massive Betts series.

Weight: 572.0 grains. Diameter: 40.1 mm.

Julian CM-7. Greenslet GM-81. Fuld FR.M.UN.2.

For a complete narrative on Sansom and Reich, and the creation of this medallion series, please see Lot 1049.

From our sale of the Dreyfuss Collection, April 1986, Lot 5407.

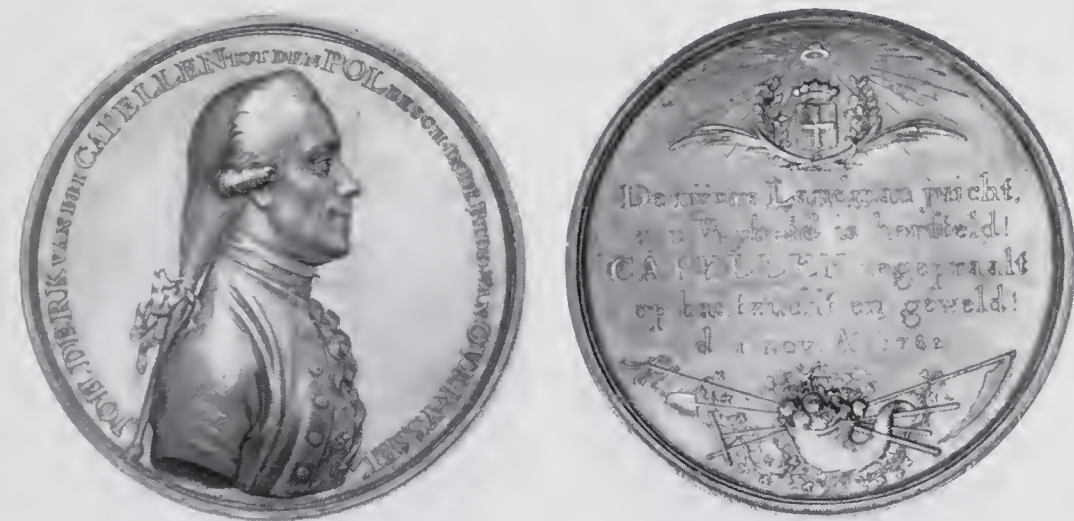


- 1122 Betts-unlisted. 1775 (ca. 1875) Death of General Warren at Bunker Hill. White metal. Very Fine. Plain edge. Pewter gray with some silver gray lustrous highlights. Some handling marks typical of medals in this composition, none of which are individually offensive. This medal was struck on the centennial of the Battle of Bunker Hill, which occurred on Breed's Hill, and was included by Mr. LaRiviere in lieu of the unknown Betts-623 which mentions General Joseph Warren who died at that battle.

Weight: 518.7 grains. Diameter: 44.9 mm.

Storer 2055.

From Glendining's sale of April 1991, Lot 251.



- 1123 Betts-unlisted. 1782 Baron Van Capellen. Silver shells. Choice About Uncirculated. Plain edge. Lustrous silver gray with elegant violet and rose highlights. Tiny mark below L of POL on obverse mentioned for future identification. While not listed in Betts, a brief epilogue to the Betts works makes note of “several medals relating to individuals prominent in this country in connection with the War of Independence or active abroad in behalf of the cause of the Colonies” and includes the medals of Johan Derk, Baron Van Capellen among them “including three on the death of the latter.” The present specimen is just such a medal, featuring Van Capellen on the obverse facing right in periwig with his titles. The reverse reads, in translation, “the industrious citizen rejoices, his freedom is reinstated, Capellen is victorious over selfishness and force” with the date of Van Capellen's death on November 1, 1782.

This medal was engraved by Dutch engraver Johann Georg Holtzhey and struck soon after Van Capellen's death. Van

Capellen was active on behalf of the Americans in the important period between the Treaty of Armed Neutrality and the recognition of the United States by the Dutch States-General, and died only a month after that recognition. The Dutch “free cap” on the reverse highlights his devotion to republican principles. A very scarce and beautiful medal, and infrequently offered in America.

Weight: 589.3 grains. Diameter: 49.3 mm.

From Hans Schulman's sale of March 1973, Lot 1627.

Very Rare 1775 BHM-265 in Silver



- 1124 Betts-unlisted. BHM-265. Undated (ca. 1775? 1785?) George III. Silver. About Uncirculated. Plain edge. Lovely bright silver gray and olive with light blue highlights. A bit bright from an old lacquering with some hairlines and two digs behind George's lowest curl noted. Excellent eye appeal with all details sharp.

The engraving of this medal by Lewis Pingo is very high quality. The portrait of George III to the right is flattering, and the reverse image of Liberty holding her pileus is an attractive take on this familiar deity. The reverse legend SEMPER HONOR NOMENQUE TUUM is translated by Brown as “Your honor and name forever,” an obvious reference to the “English liberty” for which both sides of the Revolution fought.

This medal is a controversial one, though all conclusions about the reason for its issuance point to an American reference. The long-standing tradition of this medal is that “it is possible that it was struck on the occasion of John Adams, the first American ambassador's initial interview with George III on 1st June 1785,” as indicated by Brown in *BHM*. Newer research by Christopher Eimer, as published in his 1998 work *The Pingo Family and Medal Making in 18th-century Britain*, states “although the medal carries obvious allusions to war and liberty, and to the support of George III, the occasion of its issue is unclear.

This medal was exhibited by Lewis Pingo in 1775.” If exhibited by Pingo in 1775, it is difficult to conclude that this medal was designed and struck to commemorate an event in 1785. This stated, however, it would be more difficult to attribute an English medal commemorating George III's dedication to Liberty to 1775 without some American implication. It seems likely that this medal was executed by Pingo, just prior to his hiring by the Royal Mint as third engraver, as a pro-regal propaganda piece at a time when the King and his ministers were under fire even in Britain for their handling of American policies. As such, it is an interesting English view on the period of the American independence and presents the concept of “liberty” hand-in-hand with the monarchy that seemed contemporaneously anathematic to that concept on the opposite side of the Atlantic. This medal is called RRR or “extremely rare” in silver by Brown and should see spirited bidding when it makes a rare appearance at the auction block.

Weight: 338.6 grains. Diameter: 40.2 mm.

Purchased from Christopher Eimer in October 1988.



- 1125 **Betts-unlisted. BHM-265. Undated (ca. 1775? 1785?) George III. Gilt copper. About Uncirculated.** Plain edge. Bright light yellow gold with glossy surfaces. Some speckling effect in left reverse field is not offensive, and a tiny splash of color near right reverse rim at 3:00 is noted. Gilded contemporarily and well-handled since with only minor friction on the highest points of the design. Not mentioned by Brown or Eimer in gilt and probably quite rare thus. An interesting format for this most interesting medal.

Weight: 422.9 grains. Diameter: 40.2 mm.

Purchased from James King on January 30, 1994.

Exquisite BHM-265 in Copper.

Ex. Peck Collection



- 1126 **Betts-unlisted. BHM-265. Undated (ca. 1775? 1785?) George III. Copper. Choice Mint State.** Plain edge. Lovely dark chocolate brown mingling with natural mint color on superb lustrous surfaces. The reverse is predominately red, and we note only the lightest indication of cabinet friction on the extreme reverse high points. A gloriously choice piece of copper, and probably one of the finest known in this metal. A prize for the specialist.

Weight: 419.7 grains. Diameter: 40.2 mm.

Purchased from the Spink Numismatic Circular, October 1987, Lot 5904. Earlier in the famed collection of copper coins formed by C. Wilson Peck.



- 1127 **Betts-unlisted. 1790 Diplomatic medal. Copper. U.S. Mint copy from 1875 dies. Choice Mint State.** Plain edge. Rich mahogany bronze with glossy lustrous fields. A minuscule spot over D in the date numerals identifies this specimen. According to Julian, only 86 pieces were struck in this composition, and today specimens are quite rare.

The original Diplomatic medals, struck in 1792 in gold and copper from dies accomplished by Augustin Dupre, are extremely rare today; only two copper specimens are currently known to exist. In the 1870s, this medal was equally rare, so the U.S. Mint undertook a project to produce new dies and strike new specimens to satisfy the feverish collector demand. The originals were the final medal produced in France for the nascent United States, and the beautiful design of America welcoming Commerce was intended to communicate the American desire to attract allies and commercial partners in the earliest days of American diplomacy. This historical medal, already a legendary rarity over a century ago, was copied by Barber from extant lead splashers owned by Professor Jules Marcon of Massachusetts and struck beginning in April 1876 in both copper and silver. Barber signed the medal "C. Barber 1876" and added Dupre's signature, which had been purposely omitted from the originals. A fascinating relic of the "golden age" of American medal collecting, and a suitable replacement for one of the rarest medals in the American series.

Weight: 2645.9 grains. Diameter: 68.0 mm.

It is interesting to note that, soon after this medal was produced by the Philadelphia Mint, the Chapman brothers owned an original specimen from the Bushnell Collection and attempted to sell it to the Mint Collection for the unheard price of \$500. In later years the brothers went on record as calling the Mint products from Barber's dies "counterfeits," quite out of spite at their rejected offer.

From Coin Galleries's sale of November 1992, Lot 2175.

THE A.B. WELCH COLLECTION OF INDIAN PEACE MEDALS

We are pleased to present the A.B. Welch Collection of Indian Peace medals, one of the most extraordinary assemblages of Indian Peace medals ever formed and offered at auction. While not an extensive selection of types, or a collection assembled over a long period of years by an astute numismatist as we are accustomed to, this group of five medals is truly a landmark offering. Colonel A.B. Welch was a resident of Mandan, North Dakota, the famous frontier village where Lewis and Clark spent their first winter among the friendly Mandan tribe. At a young age, he became not only interested, but personally immersed in the culture of Native Americans. According to an article about Welch in the *Minneapolis Times Tribune* of June 26, 1940:

Colonel Welch's interest in an association with the Indian dates far back into his boyhood when his family lived near Fort Randall, South Dakota in 1882. There, one summer day, a party of Sioux braves came calling in a none too friendly mood. While the Welch youngsters hid under a bed, the pioneer mother cooked flapjacks for the Indians as fast as she could. Their stomachs filled, and somewhat appeased, the Sioux at last departed, but not until the leader had pulled a kicking, scratching youngster from underneath the bed.

The youngster was Colonel Welch, and the Sioux chief was Red Tomahawk, later one of the Indian police who killed Sitting Bull.



Chief Charging Bear (A.B. Welch) in traditional Dakota dress. Note that he is wearing two of his Peace medals, here offered as Lots 1128 and 1129.

Welch's interest in Native Americans would not wane from that point until his death in 1945, by which time he was not only one of the foremost Anglo authorities on Native American culture and owner of one of the largest collections of Indian artifacts in the world, but he also had the honor of being the only white man to ever be made a chief in the Sioux Nation. In March 1924, when Welch spoke before the Chicago Historical Society, whose own collection of Indian Peace medals includes a George III medal given to Ottawa chief Blackbird in 1815, his introduction was as follows:

Major A.B. Welch of Mandan, North Dakota, will speak on "The Dakota Indian - His Own Story" giving the results of many years of close study of the tribal history, life stories, ceremonies, and legends of the Mandans, from the times of Verendrye, Lewis and Clark, and Maximilian to the World War, when he was Commander of the Indian Battalion. Major Welch is known among the Dakota peoples as 'Mato Watake' (Charging Bear), having been adopted as son of their great Chief John Grass, the only white man ever adopted by them with full tribal ceremony. A group of rare specimens from Major Welch's collection of Indian arts and crafts will be exhibited, and their meaning demonstrated. This is an opportunity to gain a true understanding of a native American people to pass on to your children.

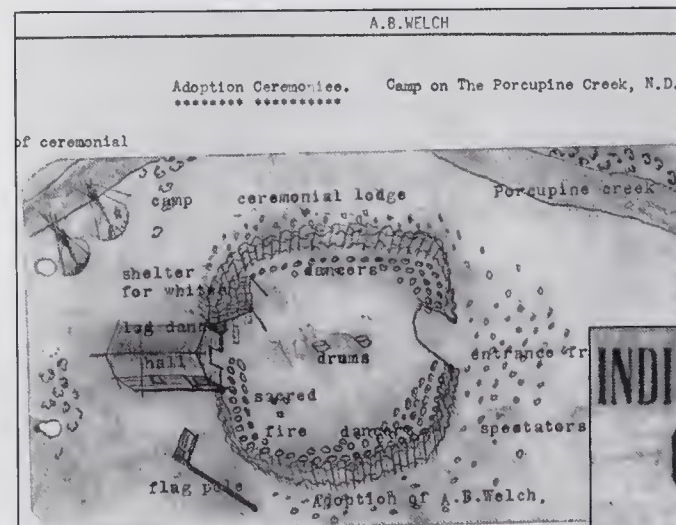
Based upon his lifelong association with the Sioux (or Dakotah) people, Welch was formally adopted by Chief John Grass as his son at a tribal ceremony in 1913. Chief John Grass was, according to an October 20, 1890 article in *Harper's Weekly*, "held in great respect for wisdom and bravery" and "took a prominent part as [a] follower of Sitting Bull in the war that brought about the massacre at the Little Big Horn."

Welch personally became very close to this famed Sioux warrior, and stated in 1924 "during the lifetime of my foster father, John Grass, a vacant space was always left in the camp circle for my tent and, in some mysterious manner, my presence was always known, and women were on hand to erect my lodge no matter what time of the day or night I appeared." Four years after Welch was adopted as a member of the Sioux nation, he was chosen by Theodore Roosevelt and future U.S. Treasurer Frank White to form a cavalry battalion composed entirely of Indian troops to fight as part of the American forces in World War I. While Welch was serving in France with



4/19/24 Major A. B. Welch

It is doubtful if there is in the northwest or the nation today as competent a student of the northwestern Indian tribesmen as A. B. Welch, who is now serving as postmaster of this city. Born in Iowa, he was brought as a youth by his father to a point near what is now Armour, South Dakota, and early gained an acquaintance with the red man. He is the only white man ever adopted into the Sioux tribe as a blood brother and has spent many years gaining details which made possible the writing of the historic article published herewith. Mr.



5/19
Mato Watake
.....
When the name of Mato Watake was given in a speech delivered the day of my adoption, Red Tomahawk said: "In the old times a young warrior would give all such an honorable name. All his skin and many of his friends would give him a name. He would give a great feast and make presents to every one. He would fight he got into he would expose himself to great danger to show his bravery and to be worthy of such a great name."

INDIAN NAME
GIVEN WELCH

John Grass Writes A. B. Welch
That He Can Take His
Pick of Name

THE CHIEF'S LETTER.
Fort Yates, N. D.
March 2, 1913.

Hon. A. B. Welch,
Bismarck, N. D.

Dear Sir:

I am very glad indeed to receive the pipe you sent me last 21 of Feb. and showed it to all my friends. I'll never forget this favor you have done to me about this present. At the same time I received your letter and in reply I will say that I thank you very much. You said in the letter that you will visit us at the coming fair we are going to have and that you will make a feast for us, and that you will buy a bear.

I will make you an Indian name. I will say whether this I will let you pick a name. The names are: One is Mato Watake (Charging Bear) and the other is Mato Watake (Charging Bear).

I am a true friend of yours and I will be with you at the coming fair.

Yours truly,
John Grass

Clockwise from left: Sketch of the ceremonial camp where A.B. Welch was adopted by Chief John Grass. Photograph and biographical sketch of Major A.B. Welch in U.S. Military dress. *Bismarck Tribune* reprinting of the March 2, 1913 letter from John Grass to A.B. Welch in which John Grass offers an Indian name to Welch.

the 164th United States Infantry, his adoptive father Chief John Grass died, making Welch the first white chief of the Sioux Nation. A contemporary newspaper article distributed nationally stated at the time that "the Indians now look for the return of their 'pale face chief' from the great war to assume control of the affairs of the tribe and act as spokesman in all manners in which the Sioux are involved." When Welch returned home to North Dakota after the War, he was able to display the traditional Sioux emblems of war: three white feathers, one for each war in which he had fought, and two red feathers which represented wounds received. Many of his charges were not so lucky – Chief John Grass's natural son Albert was killed in France; Welch would return to Europe in 1921 to retrieve his remains to be interred with honors befitting a Sioux warrior.

Welch was among the best known scholars on Native American culture in the first half of the 20th century, and George Heye (namesake of the Heye Foundation which maintains the Museum of the American Indian in New York), called him "the best qualified to give out information on those western peoples." His scholarship and dedication to historical accuracy is made plain in his extensive notes and pedigrees on each medal, and we are proud to have been selected to first offer these impressive artifacts of his relationship with the Sioux to the numismatic community. One of Welch's favorite Indian blessings was used to close an article he wrote in 1926 – "I turn my face toward your lodge and hold up a handful of sweet grass in token of grateful thoughts." We offer the same sentiments to you, the prospective bidder, as these remarkable medals are offered on the auction block.

Fully Pedigreed George III Peace Medal

Issued to Red Thunder II for Actions in
Ohio in the War of 1812

An Extraordinarily Historic Artifact



1128 Undated (ca. 1776-1814) George III Indian Peace medal. Adams 7.3, Jamieson-18, Betts-438. Struck silver. Very Fine. Plain edge. Original ornamented hanger no longer present, replaced by a hole and simple ring of relatively modern manufacture for suspension. Light pewter gray, a bit bright from old polishing and wear, with some microscopic pitting visible. Some old dents and nicks typically seen on awarded Indian Peace medals, none of which are individually offensive though we note a nick below the lion's tail for future identification. Planchet crack on reverse before horse's snout descends into center of shield. This medal displays expected friction on high points, especially at central reverse, but all design elements remain bold.

In John W. Adams' newest book *The Indian Peace Medals of George III Or His Majesty's Sometime Allies*, the author makes a list of 86 known specimens of this Peace medal type in his modern

census. Of these pieces, which reside in both private and institutional collections, only three still possess a pedigree which stretches back to a native owner. All of these are permanently impounded in museum collections. The present specimen has a most remarkable pedigree. We quote A.B. Welch's 1939 catalogue of his collection of Indian artifacts:

"This medal was given by the King to the son of Wahikyan Luta (Red Thunder), a Yanktonaise chief who was induced by the English officer Robert Dixon (or Dickson), who had a trading post on Lake Traverse, to go against the American settlers on the Ohio River, and who led a party of Isantees as far as Detroit in that war. During the expedition, his son performed deeds of valor for which he was named Waaneta or "The Rushing Man" and received this very medal and a flag from the King. Upon the death of Waaneta, at the mouth of the Beaver Creek in Emmons

County, North Dakota, it passed to his eldest son, who also bore the name of Waaneta; then to his son named or rather called Wahmeta and who is buried in the cemetery at Fort Totten, Devils Lake, North Dakota; then owned by his son Cottonwood, who lived upon the Cannon Ball River, and, lastly, it was owned by Cottonwood's son, who I knew well, and who bore the name of Cottonwood and lived on the Cannon Ball, where he died in the fall of 1938 and where he lies buried. He was a leader of the Yanktonaise, and often told me that he owned a medal of George Washington. I was shown the medal and explained the matter to him. He gave me the medal at that time. It is furnished with a ring for cord and is well preserved, except part of the British Coat of Arms is somewhat worn. A rare medal and authentic as to descent and history."

Other notes from Welch indicate the man from whom he obtained the medal was better known as Jerome Cottonwood, who was born about 1872. Welch already owned this piece by September 1932. The earlier characters in Welch's brief history of the medal are the most documented and most important. Red Thunder I was born around 1740 and was described by Zebulon Pike in 1806 as "first chief of all the Sioux." Captain Thomas G. Anderson, an American army officer who wintered on the Minnesota River between 1808 and 1811 and captured his experiences in a narrative now in the collection of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, called Red Thunder or Wack-haw-en-du-tah [Welch spells this same name quite differently] "one of the most universally respected chiefs among all the numerous Sioux bands." Red Thunder's son, also called Red Thunder or Red Thunder II, was the actual recipient of this medal. Estimates on the date of Red Thunder II's birth range from 1770 to 1795; as always, the truth almost certainly lies in between. Red Thunder II was made Chief of the Yankton Sioux in 1822 on the banks of Lake Traverse, which sits on the border of Minnesota and South Dakota. As a much younger man, however, Red Thunder II was the original recipient of the presently offered British Peace medal. Colonel Robert Dixon, to whom Welch attributed this medal's presentation, was a Scottish-born employee of the British Indian Department, based on Mackinac Island in the 1780s when Dixon first became a factor in the British fur trade. Dixon married the sister of Red Thunder, called Helen or Totowin, took a position of responsibility over the British Indian Department for the Western Tribes during the War of 1812, and died in 1823.

Welch further describes this medal's history in an entry in his manuscript collection catalogue, completed around 1944, which read:

"When Waaneta was 17 years old, he and his father and 150 Yanktonaise Indians were taken down the Ohio Valley to fight in the war of 1812 under the command of Robert Dickson, a Colonel in the English Army, who had married an Indian woman — presumably to increase his influence among the Indians. Waaneta, called 'the man who rushes,' as a reward for killing four or five American colonists, though he himself was but a boy, was taken to England; was presented to King George; was given a Colonelcy in the English Army; and was presented with this medal."

The remarkable story told by Welch of this medal's history is borne out by the history of the War of 1812, a conflict fought as much for the right to colonize what was then called the Northwest as any other single cause. According to John Boatman of the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, Colonel Robert Dixon was "an English Army officer and Indian Agent in the western district based at Lake Winnebago" on the Fox River in Wisconsin in November 1813. He likely took up this position after returning from the Battle of Fort Meigs, the conflict which Welch referred to above, at which a Red Thunder, either father or son, and Dixon are known to have both been. The current literature on the battle

is explicitly unclear as to which Red Thunder, father or son, was present at the Battle of Fort Meigs; this medal's pedigree elucidates the issue by suggesting that both were present, but it was the son who was rewarded for his actions there. The Battles of Fort Meigs took place in May and July of 1813, as British and Native forces under Colonel Henry Proctor and Tecumseh gave siege to Fort Meigs on the Maumee River in northwest Ohio, held by American troops under General William Henry Harrison. After abandoning their siege on Fort Meigs in July, 1813, the British and Native forces moved on to Fort Stephenson on the Sandusky River, where American Major George Croghan stood fast under fire and threats of massacre until August 2, the day the siege stopped and the Battle of Lake Erie began. The famous victory on Lake Erie, under Oliver Hazard Perry, enabled American control of the Great Lakes and Detroit, which had fallen to British and Native forces the previous August.

Welch's inkling that this medal was awarded for Red Thunder II's service under Colonel Robert Dixon is telling and historically significant. The awardee's father, Red Thunder I, had previously complained about the United States' policies regarding medal distribution to Zebulon Pike, whose 1806 journey up the Mississippi was assisted by a then much younger Robert Dixon. Upon Pike's arrival at the Sioux council, Red Thunder complained vigorously about the wanton gift-giving of the Lewis and Clark expedition which had climbed the Missouri the year before. Father Francis Paul Prucha's landmark work *Indian Peace Medals in American History* documents this episode:

"He also met with the Sioux, one of whom, Red Thunder, arose to complain about the disparity between the treatment of Indians on the Mississippi with those of the Missouri: 'That last year an officer went up the Missouri — gave flags and medals — made chiefs, and played the devil and all.' Pike reassured the jealous chief that 'to make chiefs of them &c.' was why he now invited them to accompany him to St. Louis. ... Other Indians delivered up their medals and flags, and Pike prepared to depart."

Little did Pike know that Robert Dixon, a paid officer in the British Army, was already married into the family of Red Thunder, who now took it upon himself to give the American explorer a hard time. Red Thunder II, a young man at the time and Dixon's brother-in-law, was undoubtedly influenced by the attitude of his powerful father when he became known as Waaneta, translated "The Rushing Man" or "Charger," during his actions on behalf of the British at the old Northwest frontier of Indiana, Ohio, and Michigan.

The present medal, which still retains an aged and worn strap of rawhide that could date to prior than the acquisition by A.B. Welch, may be the only George III Indian Peace medal of the undated type with a pedigree back to its original Indian owner in private hands. Every George III Indian Peace medal was awarded under interesting and unique circumstances; they are all special pieces of the history of North America. The present specimen is unusually important for its well-documented pedigree which Welch, the consummate student of Native American culture, had enough forethought to preserve for future students and collectors. The next owner of this medal will be the first person to ever purchase this medal and the next steward of this impressive piece of America's frontier history.

Weight: 1366.5 grains; Diameter: 77.1 mm.

A.B. Welch, in an undated article for *North Dakota Good Roads Magazine*, described the relationship of Red Thunder II and Robert Dixon during the period Red Thunder II received the presently offered medal:

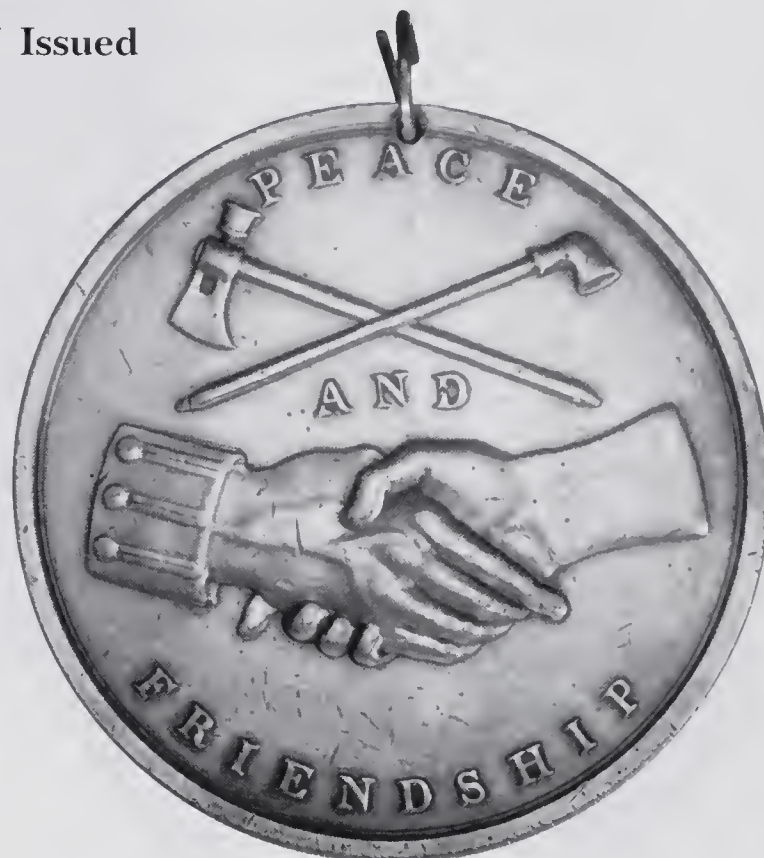
The great Chief, Waaneta, ... was an Indian ally of the British in the War of 1812, when he, together with his famous father, Red Thunder, and about forty Yanktonaise, fought with the British against the American settlers in the valleys of Indiana and Ohio. It was there that he gained his warrior's name, which being translated means "The Rushing Man." Waaneta was taken to England and presented at Court, but after his return, he deserted the English cause before Detroit, and always sorry for his participation

against the Americans. The English agent among the Dakotas, Robert Dixon, had promised them that they would drive the Long Knives (Americans) south of the Ohio and give the land to the Indians. His failure to fulfill that promise cost him the help of the Yanktonaise and after the war, he was ordered to be banished from this country, but having married the daughter of Red Thunder, he was permitted to maintain a trading station upon the Red River of the North, for some time thereafter.

Awarded in England by King George III to Red Thunder II, also known as Waaneta or "The Rushing Man," around 1814 on the suggestion of British Indian Agent Robert Dixon. By descent to his son, grandson, great grandson (Cottonwood), and great-great grandson (Jerome Cottonwood), then given by Jerome Cottonwood to A.B. Welch before 1932, then left to Welch's grandnephew, our present consignor.

Rare 1849 Zachary Taylor Indian Peace Medal

Only 37 Issued



1129 1849 Zachary Taylor Indian Peace medal. Julian IP-27, Prucha-47. Struck silver. Extremely Fine. Plain edge. Holed at 12:00 with ring therein for suspension. Very attractive silver gray with some tiny marks typical of awarded Peace medals. Rim bump noted at 10:00 on obverse. Excellent eye appeal and overall detail, with the natural appearance of a medal that has not been polished in quite some time. An aged and patinated piece of rawhide is still attached and unbroken, with unusual and complex knots still holding fast.

According to A.B. Welch's collection catalogue:

"This medal was left to me when he died, by express command of his, and delivered to me by his daughter. (In this I mean Red Fish, a Yanktonaise Chief). Red Fish always wore this medal when I saw him. Claimed that he was born in 'Winter of 1838-39. Man with spectacles from far away came attacking. Got killed, winter.' That he was with his father's band of Yanktonaise at the Treaty of Fort Laramie, September 1851. The record says that this treaty was made between D.D. Mitchell, Superintendent of Indian Affairs and Thomas Fitzpatrick, Indian Agent, commissioners specially appointed etc.—and chiefs, headmen, and braves of the following Indian nations, viz. The Sioux or Dakotas, Cheyennes, Arapahoes, Crows, Assinibioines, Gros Ventre Mandans, and Arickaras. Red Fish claimed that his father received this medal at that time and place. Somewhat scratched, but in fine condition."

In Welch's voluminous notes, the character Red Fish emerges time and time again as an aged village performer, an interesting elder of waning influence in the tribe who is loved in spite of it. Welch recorded in 1913: "On dance occasions I have frequently seen him with a buffalo headdress, and he often dances on the

extreme outside of the circle, and watches the distance and shades his eyes as he watches; at other times he glares scowlingly at the sun, because he tells me 'I am the bravest man among them and so I have the right to dance on the outside of the circle so I will be the first to meet any enemies who may come around from men or spirits.'" Reading between the lines of Welch's observations over a period spanning over 30 years, it is easy to come to the conclusion that Red Fish may tell stories that have little basis in fact. An entry in Welch's writings committed to paper shortly after the death of Red Fish states:

"This medal was worn by Chief Red Fish, Yanktonaise Sioux, for many years. At his death in the spring of 1928, I secured it. I am told, today July 27th 1928, by All Yellow that the medal was first presented to the father of Cottonwood [a descendent of Red Thunder], who was of considerable importance among the Yanktonaise. At his death the medal became the possession of his son, also Cottonwood, who, for some reason, gave it to Red Fish."

We are more partial to this pedigree for this medal, but the original date of presentation is still in question.

Prucha describes the signing of the Treaty of Fort Laramie, signed in modern-day Wyoming on September 17, 1851, saying "at the end of the great council with the Plains Indians at Fort Laramie in 1851, the United States commissioners made an elaborate presentation of gifts. The chiefs of each band came first. Each was decked out in a general's uniform with a gilt sword hanging at the side. Around the neck of each chief was placed a peace medal bearing the likeness of the President, and documents with a large seal and ribbons attested to the character of the chiefs." The Treaty of Fort Laramie was among the most important treaties

signed in the mid 19th century, and effectively paved the way for American settlement to the Pacific Ocean. As important as this treaty was, it occurred during the administration of Millard Fillmore and three months after the first delivery of Fillmore Peace medals to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. Undoubtedly dozens of Peace medals were issued at the Treaty of Fort Laramie; there were 21 signatory chiefs alone, without mentioning the many other chiefs who would have been in attendance.

Only 37 specimens of the Zachary Taylor medal in this largest format were released from the Mint, and Prucha makes note of two other treaties among the Sioux earlier in 1851, including one "with the upper bands of the Sioux along the Minnesota River" that was signed on July 23, 1851. By the late 19th century, the Treaty of Fort Laramie had already earned a reputation as an important treaty, especially among the Sioux who were given overwhelming control of prime hunting land that drew them into conflict with other Plains tribes. It is more sensible, based upon the date of the weighty and large scale Treaty of Fort Laramie and the date of the initial deliveries of the much less rare Fillmore medals, that this medal was delivered at that Treaty of July 23, 1853 to a member of Cottonwood's lineage.

This medal was lacking in stellar modern offerings of Indian Peace medals including Kessler-Spangenberg, Dreyfuss, Steinberg and Schenkel. The outright rarity of this medal would alone guarantee spirited bidding activity. With its splendid state of preservation and the exciting knowledge that this specimen was given by re-

quest from the family of Red Fish to A.B. Welch in 1928, the first offering of this medal to collectors should interest any advanced connoisseur of American history.

Weight: 2616.8 grains; Diameter: 75.5 mm.

Given by the daughter of Red Fish to A.B. Welch in the spring of 1928. Earlier, probably given to the father of Cottonwood ca. 1851, by descent to Cottonwood, by gift to Red Fish.



Photograph of Major A.B. Welch with several Indians, including Chief Red Fish (carrying the U.S. flag), Two Bears, and Mrs. Two Bears in front, circa 1921.

Extraordinary 1865 Andrew Johnson Indian Peace Medal

“BROTHER I AM PLEASED WITH YOU!”



1130 1865 Andrew Johnson Indian Peace medal. Julian IP-40, Prucha-52. Struck silver. Choice Extremely Fine. Plain edge. Original suspension mount and loop intact, though showing evidence of old repair work. Top of reverse engraved in carefully accomplished lettering “BROTHER I AM PLEASED WITH YOU!” Bright silver gray with reflective surfaces. A few minor nicks and scratches, the most notable of which is in the field behind Johnson’s head. Very attractive and only lightly worn, thanks in large part to the concave fields and high rims protecting the main design elements. A rawhide strap of indeterminate age survives in the suspension loop.

This historic medal was presented to the Blackfoot Sioux (Sihasapa) chief Kill Eagle by order of President Andrew Johnson for Kill Eagle’s role in the safe return of captive Fanny Kelly to Fort Pierre, South Dakota in 1865. According to historian Dr. Sally Roesch Wagner, Kelly “was taken captive in July 1864 by a war party of Hunkpapa Sioux in Wyoming. During most of the five months she was held prisoner, Mrs. Kelly stayed in the lodgings of Sitting Bull, the famous leader, ‘as a guest,’ of his family, ‘and I was treated as a guest,’ she wrote.” Fierce territorial fighting between the tribes of the Great Plains began in earnest in 1851 after the Treaty of Fort Laramie, and by 1862 the Santee Uprising in Minnesota took the hostilities to a new level with the onset of the Sioux War of 1862. Dozens of Anglo captives were taken during this period, which provoked a rash of “captivity narratives” that were published both serially and in book form; Fanny Kelly’s 1871

book “My Captivity Among the Sioux Indians” was among the most famous published during this period and remains readily available in reprint form to this day.

Fanny Wiggins Kelly was born in 1845 and moved to Kansas in 1856. By 1864, Kelly and her family were emigrating even further west to Idaho, and in July of that year her traveling party was attacked by “a party of about 250 Indians, painted and equipped for war, who uttered the wild war-whoop and fired a volley of guns and revolvers into the air.” Kelly remained in captivity for five months, before two Blackfeet Indians, Kill Eagle and his brother Short Gun, traded their horses to the Ogalala Sioux for her and another woman. These Blackfeet saw to Kelly’s safe return to the hands of the U.S. Government, though her account and the notes of A.B. Welch differ on whether or not Kelly was initially returned at Fort Sully or Fort Pierre, both in South Dakota. Kelly says of the Blackfeet “these savages proved very kind to me. Though their nation is regarded by the whites as very vindictive and hostile, they showed me nothing but civility and respect.” Word of Kelly’s capture, which had become a bit of a cause celebre on the frontier, reached the highest echelons of power, and by the end of 1865 President Andrew Johnson had instructed gifts to be given to the two loyal Blackfeet. Johnson’s letter, reproduced in full below, dictated that “as a memento of my perpetual friendship for Nootay-u-hah and his brother, so long as they remain friendly with my white children, I direct that a silver medal be given to each of them with a suitable inscription, that all



Fanny Wiggins Kelly

my red children and all my white children when they look upon it may know that their Great Father in Washington is greatly pleased with Nootay-u-hah and Nootay-u-hah's brother." Pursuant to this Presidential order, the present Peace medal was engraved, presumably upon delivery to the local Indian agent in the Dakota Territory, "BROTHER I AM PLEASED WITH YOU!" at the top of the reverse. This is the only such special engraving on a Peace medal known to us.

With its remarkable pedigree to one of the most famous violent interactions between the Plains Indians and American settlers in the West, this medal is a unique numismatic prize. The affectionate and evocative engraving of "Brother I am pleased with you!", as ordered by President Andrew Johnson, sets this medal apart from its kin and makes it an especially important Peace medal. Only 90 large size Andrew Johnson Peace medals were struck, and it is doubtful if a more interesting specimen survives than the present one. An exciting Indian Peace medal with a spectacular pedigree, and one of the highlights of the present offering.

Weight: 2674.3 grains; Diameter: 75.6 mm.

The complete text of Fanny Kelly's "My Captivity Among the Sioux Indians" is available on line at <http://moa.umd.umich.edu/cgi/sgml/moa-idx?notisid=ABB5283>.

The following letter was sent from President Andrew Johnson to the Blackfoot chief Wa-ma-de-Kta regarding the return of Fanny Kelly by two Blackfeet including Kill Eagle.

"Executive Mansion

Washington November 14th, 1865

I have learned from the Commissioners sent by me to treat with the Indians, whose country borders on the Missouri river and its tributaries, that two of my red children, Nootay-u-hah, or Short Gun, and the brother of Nootay-u-hah [Kill eagle], of the Blackfeet tribe of Sioux, or Dakotah Nation, have rescued two white women from my enemies, and gave their two horses in exchange for them. I am greatly pleased with this honorable and friendly conduct of Nootay-u-hah and his brother, and direct that One hundred silver dollars be given to him and that One hundred silver dollars be given to his brother to enable each to buy for himself another horse. I also direct that fifty silver dollars be given to each to pay for his trouble in rescuing these white women and sending them to the white people.

And as a memento of my perpetual friendship for Nootay-u-hah and his brother, so long as they remain friendly with my white children, I direct that a silver medal be given to each of them with a suitable inscription, that all my red children and all my white children when they look upon it may know that their Great Father in Washington is greatly pleased with Nootay-u-hah and Nootay-u-hah's brother; I also write my name on this paper and direct that it be given to Nootay-u-hah, and a duplicate of it to his brother, that they may know that the silver money and the medals have been sent by me to them from Washington.

Signed, Andrew Johnson, President U.S.

Signed, Jas. Harlan, Secretary of the Interior

For Wa-ma-de-Kta, Blackfeet Chief

A true copy.

R.E. Johnson, Captain of Infantry, Acting Indian Agent."



Photograph of Kill Eagle, from the collection of A.B. Welch, was taken by a photographer named Cross in Niobrara, Nebraska ca. 1880-1890. The full caption reads "Kill Eagle, Black Foot tribe, who rescued Mrs. Kelley [sic] from the Uncapapa band; he was also in the Custer Massacre." A July 24, 1876 letter from Captain John S. Poland of the 6th Infantry in the A.B. Welch Collection describes Kill Eagle as "prominently engaged in the battle of June 25 [Little Big Horn], and afterward upbraided Sitting Bull for not taking an active personal part in the engagement." A letter dated September 5, 1876 refers to Kill Eagle as "a hostile chief belonging to this Agency."

Given on behalf of President Andrew Johnson to Blackfoot chief Kill Eagle in 1865. By descent to his grandson, James Eagle Horn, to A.B. Welch before 1939.

Splendid 1871 U.S. Grant Indian Peace Medal

Pedigreed to Blue Thunder



1131 1871 Ulysses S. Grant Indian Peace medal. Julian IP-42, Prucha-53. Struck silver. Choice Extremely Fine. Plain edge. Holed at 12:00 with round silver ring present for suspension. Aged and intricately knotted piece of patinated deerhide though suspension loop. Bright silver gray with pale iridescent blue highlights and plentiful remaining lustre. Choice eye appeal and preservation with only very light wear on extreme high points and minor hair-lines in fields. Tiny rim nick at 11:30 on reverse noted for future identification. A truly lovely specimen.

Grant Indian Peace medals are among the most plentiful silver issued Peace medals of the 19th century with 300 pieces released. Despite this relative plenitude, Grant medals are avidly sought after for their telling devices and inscriptions, accomplished by Anthony Paquet, which were personally requested by the Grant administration. In the words of Prucha, "one can imagine Grant and his cabinet, each making his suggestion as to what should be added to the design."

This medal is set apart from other Grant medals by its pedigree. Like the other medals in the A.B. Welch Collection, the present medal was personally acquired by Welch from the last Indian to actively wear it, in this case a chief named Blue Thunder who died in 1927. From Welch's collection catalogue:

"This one was obtained by me from two Indian youths who had stolen it and offered it for sale to a crowd of men attending the fair at Mandan, North Dakota. I took possession of it, as I believed it belonged to Blue Thunder, Fort Yates, N.D. This turned out to be true and I returned the medal to the old camp crier [Blue Thunder himself]. His story is that at one time when the Agency was at Grand River, an Indian youth shot a cow belonging to the trader's wife, and it had to be killed as it had been badly wounded by the boy's arrow. The wife of the trader was the famous teton woman,

now the wife of Major Galpin, post trader at the Post. Her name was Wambdiautopewin (Woman All The Eagles Look At), who formerly had been the wife of Honore Picotte, the head man of the Missouri Fur Company, with headquarters at Ft. Pierre. When the boy's father learned of the death of the cow by his son, he slew him. This brought all the Indians about the fort, and they demanded a white man to kill in revenge. Refused and fort store barricaded. The Indians prepared to fire the place. Blue Thunder was a trusted man in the pay of Major Galpin. He sneaked through the Indian[s] and made a run for the soldiers' place. He

was chased and fired upon by the hostiles, and received a bad knee wound, but arrived back with the soldiers' force in time to prevent destruction of the store and massacre of the inhabitants. For this he was rewarded by the authorities by the presentation of this identical medal. A year or two after that, he himself made me a present of the medal to keep as a memento of him and his bravery, but he would be permitted to see it whenever he desired. He is dead these many years, but called three times to see the medal, which he would hold in his hands and talk to. There are two bone elk tusks attached thereto by buck thong [elk tusks no longer present]. A perfect medal."

This reward for loyal conduct to the United States is consistent with the previous records of Blue Thunder. He began his service to the government in 1868 as a scout at Fort Rice, Dakota Territory, and was awarded with three horses in 1870 after a battle wound. According to his June 30, 1927 obituary in the *Sioux County Pioneer*, "the wounding of Blue Thunder proved that the hostile bands considered him a valuable ally of the white people that might well be removed." Blue Thunder served under Custer beginning in 1873, "but by the time the gallant command rode away to its doom on the

Little Big Horn, June 25th, 1876, he had fortunately severed his connection with the government." Blue Thunder served in his old age as a camp crier, and married at the age of 76 despite being



Chief Blue Thunder wearing his Grant Peace medal, circa 1925.

nearly blind. His obituary states "his memory is quite infallible and he is called upon when questions of family relationship among Indians must be settled at the Agency" and he traded at the Hokanson Brother's Store at Fort Yates, North Dakota, until his death at the age of 84 in 1927.

Much like the Andrew Johnson medal in the A.B. Welch Collection, the present specimen was given by the government to Blue Thunder as a reward for his loyal behavior at a specific moment in

history. This fascinating story of Blue Thunder protecting a family of American traders from an angry Native mob is an essential vignette of the complex interrelations of Natives and frontiersmen in the years before Wounded Knee. One of the most desirable specimens of the Grant Indian Peace medal extant.

Weight: 1528.0 grains; Diameter: 63.5 mm.

Given to Blue Thunder before 1876. Given by Blue Thunder to A.B. Welch before 1927.

Another Remarkable U.S. Grant Peace Medal

Pedigreed to Red Fish



1132 1871 Ulysses S. Grant Indian Peace medal. Julian IP-42, Prucha-53. Struck silver. Extremely Fine. Plain edge. Holed at 12:00 with solid ring present for suspension. Long leather thong, intricately knotted and heavily worn, is still attached. Rich mottled silver and pewter gray with some light surface iridescence and remaining lustre. Some usual minor nicks and scratches, with an inconsequential rim bump noted at 7:00 on the reverse. Excellent visual appeal.

This second U.S. Grant Peace medal from the A.B. Welch Collection is pedigreed to the same character who owned the Zachary Taylor Peace medal, the Yanktonaise chief Red Fish. From A.B. Welch's collection catalogue:

"President Grant's Indian Treaty gifts. This is another medal owned and worn by Red Fish and his father. It is dated 1871 and is a complex affair to describe ... [description of legends and devices] ... The earth is worn a little, and there are a few scratches, but otherwise the medal is a museum piece. He [Red Fish] stated to the writer that he received it from the President's own hand while in Washington in 1871, but I cannot find record of that visit. However, the government made a treaty amendment to a treaty at Lake Traverse (1872) in 1873, by Moses N. Adams, James Smith, Jr., and William H. Forbes, commissioners, and 'the Chiefs and headmen of the Sisseton and Wahpeton bands of Dakota or Sioux Indians, on September 20th, 1873 and it is very possible that the Yanktonaise

were present also. However, the history of this particular medal is not clear, but I believe that it is also one which belonged to his father, but it is also possible that he was the actual recipient."

As in the case of the Taylor medal that belonged to Red Fish, Red Fish's own version of the medal's provenance seems to be a wishful version of history rather than an factual version of it. Welch's educated guess as to its true origin, the signing of the "Amended Agreement with Certain Sioux Indians" of May 19, 1873, is probably accurate. Among the signatory chiefs at that treaty amendment was one who was signed as "Wah-na-ta." This may be the Waaneta in the Red Thunder line, the father of Cottonwood, who was the previous owner of the Zachary Taylor medal that Red Fish wore according to All Yellow.

No matter what its original presentation date was, this was a medal that was worn by Red Fish until his death in 1928. A visually and historically appealing Grant Indian Peace medal which would be a highlight in any well-formed cabinet of American numismatic artifacts.

Weight: 1528.0 grains; Diameter: 63.5 mm.

The complete text of the "Amended Agreement with Certain Sioux Indians" of 1873 follows:

WHEREAS, the Sisseton and Wahpeton Bands of Dakota or Sioux Indians, on the 20th day of September A. D. 1872 made and entered into an agreement in writing, signed on one part by the Chiefs and headmen of said bands, with the assent and approval of the members of [said] bands, and upon the other part by Moses N.



Undated studio portrait of Chief Red Fish, wearing his two Peace medals.

Adams, James Smith, Jr., and William H. Forbes, commissioners on the part of the United States; which said agreement is as follows, to wit:

"Whereas, the Sisseton and Wahpeton bands of Dakota or Sioux Indians made and concluded a treaty with the United States, at the city of Washington, D. C., on the 19th day of February, A. D. 1867, which was ratified, with certain amendments, by the Senate of the United States on the 15th day of April, 1867, and finally promulgated by the President of the United States on the 2d day of May, in the year aforesaid, by which the Sisseton and Wahpeton bands of Sioux Indians ceded to the United States certain privileges and rights supposed to belong to said bands in the territory described in article II of said treaty, and

"Whereas, it is desirable that all said territory, except the portion thereof comprised in what is termed the permanent reservations, particularly described in articles III and IV of said treaty, shall be ceded absolutely to the United States, upon such consideration as in justice and equity should be paid therefor by the United States; and

"Whereas, said territory, now proposed to be ceded, is no longer available to said Indians for the purposes of the chase, and such value or consideration is essentially necessary in order to enable said bands interested therein to cultivate portions of said permanent reservations, and become wholly self-supporting by the cultivation of the soil and other pursuits of husbandry; therefore, the said bands, represented in said treaty, and parties thereto, by their chiefs and headmen, now assembled in council, do propose to M. N. Adams, William H. Forbes, and James Smith, Jr., commissioners on behalf of the United States, as follows:

"First. To cede, sell, and relinquish to the United States all their right, title, and interest in and to all lands and territory, particularly described in article II of said treaty, as well as all lands in the Territory of Dakota to which they have title or interest, excepting the said tracts particularly described and bounded in articles III and IV of said treaty, which last named tracts and territory are expressly reserved as permanent reservations for occupancy and cultivation, as contemplated by articles VIII, IX, and X of said treaty.

"Second. That, in consideration of said cession and relinquishment, the United States shall advance and pay, annually, for the term of ten years from and after the acceptance by the United States of the proposition herein submitted, eighty thousand (80,000) dollars, to be expended under the direction of the President of the United States, on the plan and in accordance with the provisions of the treaty aforesaid, dated February 19, 1867, for goods and provisions, for the erection of manual-labor and public schoolhouses, and for the support of manual-labor and public schools, and in the erection of mills, blacksmith-shops, and other workshops, and to aid in opening farms, breaking land, and fencing the same, and in furnishing agricultural implements, oxen, and milch-cows, and such other beneficial objects as may be deemed most conducive to the prosperity and happiness of the Sisseton and Wahpeton bands of Dakota or Sioux Indians entitled thereto according to the said treaty of February 19, 1867. Such annual appropriation or consideration to be apportioned to the Sisseton and Devil's Lake agencies, in proportion to the number of Indians of the said bands located upon the Lake Traverse and Devil's Lake reservations respectively. Such apportionment to be made upon the basis of the annual reports or returns of the agents in charge. Said consideration, amounting, in the aggregate, to eight hundred thousand (800,000) dollars, payable as aforesaid, without interest.

"Third. As soon as may be, the said territory embraced within said reservation described in article IV, (Devil's Lake reservation,) shall be surveyed, as Government lands are surveyed, for the purpose of enabling the Indians entitled to acquire permanent rights in the soil, as contemplated by article V of said treaty.

"Fourth. We respectfully request that, in case the foregoing propositions are favorably entertained by the United States, the sale of spirituous liquors upon the territory ceded may be wholly prohibited by the United States Government.

"Fifth. The provisions of article V of the treaty of February 19, 1867, to be

modified as follows: An occupancy and cultivation of five acres, upon any particular location, for a term of five consecutive years, shall entitle the party to a patent for forty acres; a like occupancy and cultivation of ten acres, to entitle the party to eighty acres; and a like occupancy and cultivation of any tract, to the extent of twenty acres, shall entitle the party so occupying and cultivating to a patent for 160 acres of land. Parties who have already selected farms and cultivated the same, may be entitled to the benefit of this modification. Patents so issued, (as hereinbefore set forth) shall authorize a transfer or alienation of such lands

situate within the Sisseton agency, after the expiration of ten years from this date, and within the Devil's Lake reservation after the expiration of fifteen years, but not sooner.

"Fifth (sixth). The consideration to be paid, as hereinbefore proposed, is in addition to the provisions of Article VI of the treaty of February 19, 1867, under which Congress shall appropriate from time to time, such an amount as may be required to meet the necessities of said Indians to enable them to become civilized.

"Sixth (seventh). Sections sixteen and thirty-six within the reservations shall be set apart for educational purposes, and all children of a suitable age within either reservation shall be compelled to attend school at the discretion of the agents.

"Seventh (eighth). At the expiration of ten years from this date, all members of said bands, under the age of twenty-one years shall receive forty acres of land from said permanent reservations in fee simple.

"Eighth (ninth). At the expiration of ten years, the President of the United States shall

sell or dispose of all the remaining or unoccupied lands in the lake Traverse reservation, (excepting that which may hereafter be set apart for school purposes;) the proceeds of the sale of such lands to be expended for the benefit of the members of said bands located on said Lake Traverse; and, at the expiration of fifteen years, the President shall sell or dispose of all the remaining unoccupied lands (excepting that which may hereafter be set apart for school purposes) in the Devil's Lake reservation; the proceeds of the sales of such lands shall be expended for the benefit of all members of said bands who may be located on the said Devil's Lake reservation.

"Executed at Sisseton Agency, Dakota Territory, Lake Traverse reservation, this 20th day of September, A. D. 1872.

And whereas, the Congress of the United States, upon consideration of the provisions of said agreement hereinbefore recited, did, by the act making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Indian department, and for fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes, for the year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-four, and for other purposes, approved February 14th, 1873, provide as follows, to wit: "For this amount, being the first of ten installments of the sum of eight hundred thousand dollars named in a certain agreement made by the commissioners appointed by the Secretary of the Interior, under the provisions of the act of June seventh, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, with the Sisseton and Wahpeton bands of Sioux Indians for the relinquishment by said Indians of their claim to, or interest in, the lands described in the second article of the treaty made with them February nineteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-seven: the same to be expended under the direction of the President, for the benefit of said Indians, in the manner prescribed in said treaty of eighteen hundred and sixty-seven, as amended by the Senate, eighty thousand dollars. And the said agreement is hereby confirmed, excepting so much thereof as is included in paragraphs numbered respectively, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, and ninth: Provided, That no part of this amount shall be expended until after the ratification, by said Indians, of said agreement as hereby amended."

And whereas, the said Bands of Dakota or Sioux Indians have been duly assembled in council, and therein represented by the chiefs and headmen, and the provisions of said act of Congress, and amendments thereby made to the said above recited agreement, having been fully explained by the commissioners on the part of the United States, and the said agreement as amended having been fully interpreted, and now being understood, we the said chiefs and headmen of the said Sisseton and Wahpeton Bands, duly authorized by our people so to do, do hereby accept, assent to, confirm, ratify and agree to the said amendments, and to the said agreement as amended, and declare that the same is, and shall hereafter be binding upon us and the members of said Bands.



Chief Red Fish addressing a small audience, circa 1911.

Witness our hands and seals at the Lac Traverse agency, Dakota Territory, this second day of May, A. D. 1873.

Gabriel Renville.
Wamdienpiduta, his x mark.
Tacandupahotanka, his x mark.
Wicanspinupa.
Eutinkiva.
Hokxidannaxte, his x mark.
Wakanto, his x mark.
Wamdiduta, his x mark.
Waxicunmaza, his x mark.
Wasukive, his x mark.
Taurpipeta, his x mark.
Akicitanajin, his x mark.
Nupelhivu, his x mark.
Magaivalte, his x mark.
Peter Tapetatonka.
Tammivage, his x mark.
Itojanjan, his x mark.
Inihan, his x mark.
Michel Renvill.
Ixakive, his x mark.
Paul Mazawakutemani, his x mark.
Elias Oranwayakapi.
Kampeska, his x mark.
Simon Anawagmani, his x mark.
John R. Renvill.
Daniel Renville.
Taokiyeota, his x mark.
Michael Paul.
John Waniyarpeya, his x mark.
Robert Hopkins.
Alex. La Framboise.

We certify, on honor, that we were present and witnessed the signatures of the Indians as above.

G. H. HAWES.
H. T. LOVETT.
JNO. L. HODGMAN.
CHARLES P. LA GRANGE.

I hereby certify, on honor, that I have fully explained to the Indians in council, the above instrument, and that the Indians acknowledged the same to be well understood by them.

THOS. A. ROBERTSON,
Interpreter.

Executed at Sisseton agency, Lake Traverse Reservation, D. T., this second day of May, 1873.

MOSES N. ADAMS,
JAMES SMITH, JR.,
Commissioners.

Devil's Lake Reservation, Fort Totten agency, D. T., May 19, 1873.

Wah-na-ta, his x mark.
Tee-oh-wash-tag, his x mark.
Mah-pee-ah-keo-den, his x mark.
E-chah-na-gee-kah, his x mark.
Mat-te-o-he-chat-kah, his x mark.
Ou-s(e)-pe-ka-ge, his x mark.
Chan-te-ma-za, his x mark.
Ma-ka-na-hu-hu-za.
Ma-ka-i-de-ya, his x mark.

Xip-to, his x mark.
Wa-ka-no-ki-ta, his x mark.
Ta-te-o-pax-in-a-tui, his x mark.
Ru-pahu-wa-kam-a, his x mark.
A-ki-ci-ta-du-ta, his x mark.
Ta-wa-cin-ha, his x mark.
Ru-pahu-wax-te, his x mark.
Ri-o-in-yan-i-yan-ke, his x mark.
Ran-in-wan-ke, his x mark.
A-ki-ci-tam-a-ne, his x mark.
Maza-ka-hom-ni.
Wam-di-hi-ye-ya, his x mark.
Wi-cer-pi-wa-kan-na, his x mark.
Wax-i-em-u-nape-wu-az-u-za, his x mark.
Ca-do-ze, his x mark.
Wa-kin-yan-ro-ta, his x mark.
I-car-ta-ke, his x mark.
In-in-u-sa-pa, his x mark.
Mu-ya-to-ho-nax-te, his x mark.
Ton-wau-non-pa, his x mark.
We-i-za-ka-ma-za.
Ha-oih-da, his x mark.
Wam-di-o-ki-ga, his x mark.
Wa-kan-hoi-ma-za, his x mark.
He-wa-kan-na, his x mark.
I-han-gi, his x mark.
Ma-koi-ya-te, his x mark.
Ta-rin-ca-sin-te, his x mark.
Na-gi-wa-kan, his x mark.
We-ci-ni-han, his x mark.
Ca-je-wan-i-ca, his x mark.
Wan-di-cax-kpi, his x mark.
Tate, his x mark.
U-jin-pi, his x mark.
Hint-ka-ro-ta, his x mark.
Hin-han-xo-na, his x mark.

Witnesses to signatures of above chiefs and soldiers,
LEWIS CASS HUNT,

Lieut. Col. 20th Infantry.
JAMES B. FERGUSON,
Act. Asst. Surgeon, U. S. A.

I hereby certify, upon honor, that I have fully explained to the Indians the above instrument and that the Indians acknowledge the same to be well understood by them.

GEORGE H. FARIBAULT,
Interpreter.

Executed at the Fort Totten agency, "Devil's Lake" reservation, this 19th day of May, 1873, in open council, by the Sisseton and Wahpeton and "Cut-Head" bands of Sioux not included in the Sisseton and Wahpeton bands of Sioux of "Lac Travers" reservation, who signed this, on the 2nd of May, 1873, as above written.

JAMES SMITH, JR.,
WM. H. FORBES,
MOSES N. ADAMS,
Commissioners

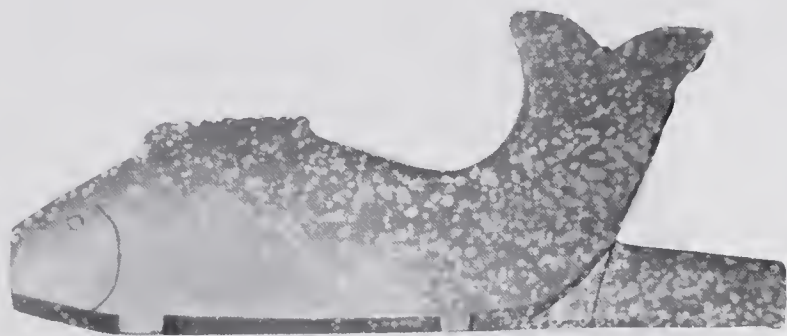
Acquired by A.B. Welch from Red Fish before 1928. Earlier, probably given to a Yanktonaise Sioux chief at the signing of the "Amended Agreement with Certain Sioux Indians" of May 1873.

A gathering of prominent Chiefs and Warriors of North Dakota, circa 1911. It is noted that the man with armbands is Blue Thunder. In addition, it is further noted that the man in front is Chasing Arrow, a medicine man, and at center with the bright tomahawk is Pretty Hawk, who was fifth in command of Indians at Little Big Horn.



Interesting Fish Effigy Pipe

Pedigreed to Red Fish



(photo reduced)

- 1133 **Yanktonaise Sioux Fish Effigy Pipe. Red Catlinite. Ca. 1870-1900. 216.6 mm x 92.4 mm. Extremely Fine.** This unusual lot, while not numismatic, is an impressive association piece from the A.B. Welch Collection. It is a pipe in the shape of a fish hand-carved from catlinite or "pipestone," a soft stone that is chemically a clay which can be easily carved with a knife. It is native to the upper Plains, particularly Minnesota, and most catlinite pipes are associated with the Sioux in this region. Catlinite was used for pipes of both a practical and ceremonial nature; the pipes intended for daily use were typically square and small while ceremonial pipes (and pipes manufactured in the late 19th and early 20th centuries for the burgeoning tourist trade) could be quite large and detailed in their design. The present pipe would have been used with the addition of a long reed as a mouthpiece and a tomahawk shaped bowl that was fitted to the mouth of the fish with a small reed cut to fit the aperture. According to Welch's collection catalogue, whose inventory number 233 is neatly painted on the back of the pipe, the "pipe was property of Hogan Luta or Red Fish, a noted chief of the Upper Yanktonaise under the old Two Bears (Mato Nopa). An interesting pipe." This same Red Fish died in 1927 and owned the Zachary Taylor and one of the U.S. Grant Peace medals herein offered. If Chief Red Fish had a favorite pipe, it is difficult to imagine he would have preferred a pipe in any other shape or color. A few minor scratches are noted, and the back stem of the pipe was broken long ago and re-affixed with a small reed, but overall this artifact is in very nice condition. A fascinating pisciform pipe, unusual and desirable for its intact pedigree. (Est: \$500-1,000)

Acquired from Red Fish by A.B. Welch before 1927.

COLONIALS

The present sale is truly a collector's potpourri of colonial and related issues. A Sommer Islands Hogge twopence in extraordinary grade, one of the finest known specimens of the denomination, makes its appearance. Pine Tree issues follow, as well as a Maryland sixpence and a Maryland shilling, both in choice EF condition. Then the popular *Guide Book* types such as Rosa Americana pieces, Wood's Hibernia coppers, Pitt tokens, and Nova Constellatio coppers are offered. A nice selection of French Colonies coins is presented as well. The state coinages are fairly well represented, with a small but enticing selection of Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Vermont pieces available to the interested bidder. Additionally, a great group of New Jersey coppers is featured. Many of the pieces are from the collection of noted New Jersey copper specialist Tom Madigan. Then come Talbot Allum & Lee issues, including a 1794 New York cent with plain edge. Washington pieces and Fugio cents round out the offering. Whether you are an advanced collector looking for a nice *Condition Census* copper, or a novice just looking to add some nice, affordable "colonials" to your collection, the following section has something for you.

Important Sommer Islands Twopence

Hogge Money of 1616

Large Star



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1134 **Undated (1616) Sommer Islands twopence. Hogge Money. Large Star variety. Breen-6, P.4 BMA Type II. VF-25 (PCGS).** Deep olive verging on black. Sharp in all areas save for the hogge's snout and the waves below the reverse ship (due to die alignment), otherwise all design elements are crisp and plain—certainly a plus where this issue is concerned. The denomination, II, is plain and bold above the hogge, and the star is plain below the hogge's belly, as are the rows of pellets below the hogge. Even details, bristles, dentils, they're all here. On the reverse, the ship is sharp and crisp, with rigging, flags, and portholes all plainly present, while the S and I (for Sommer Islands) to either side of the ship are also sharp. Only a touch of weakness shows at the waves below the ship.

When compared to the Norweb coin (Bowers and Merena's sale of the Norweb Collection, Part I, October 1987, Lot 1140), the overall surface quality and sharpness of the present coin seem somewhat finer than the Norweb specimen. In its day, the Norweb family's specimen was considered "possibly third finest known;" that attitude must be rethought now that the present coin is available for study. A decidedly choice (for the issue, which is often corroded and damaged from long exposure to the ele-

ments) example of a prized rarity. This denomination appears only occasionally at public auction (the same can safely be said for each of the Sommer Islands denominations), and this opportunity should not be ignored.

The alignment: 270°, top of main mast on reverse ship points to 3:00 when the coin is turned on its horizontal axis in relation to the obverse.

In *Coins of Bermuda*, (copyright 1997, Bermuda Monetary Authority), a list of specimens of the Hogge Money twopence issue known to the BMA reads as follows:

1. A.N.A. Weight: no data. Diameter: no data. "In the *American Numismatic Journal* it was illustrated in 1914 by Plate 13. Left edge defect from 7 to 11 o'clock."

2. Byrne. Weight: 26.2 grains. Diameter: 17 mm. "Sold at the Peters Auction 1975, Lot #67."

3. Loye Lauder. Weight: no data. Diameter: no data. "T at stern is unusually prominent. Uneven planchet. Right portion of obverse obliterated by corrosion. Sold at Doyle's 1983 as Lot #108."

4. Norweb. "Probably P.4 BMA Type II and may be the third finest known twopence." Weight: 23.9 grains. Diameter: "7" mm (actually a typographical error in the Norweb Collection catalogue that has carried over into the BMA book; the Norweb coin is actually 17.0 mm in diameter). "Graded VF-30. Clear star and considerable silvering. Formerly owned by New Netherlands Coin Company; sold 1956. Auctioned by Bowers and Merena in 1987 as Lot #1140."

5. E. Rodovan Bell. Weight: no data. Diameter: no data. "On loan to the Bank of Bermuda Ltd."

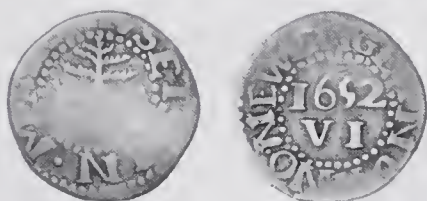
6. Bermuda Historical Society. Weight: no data. Diameter: no data. "On display to the public."

7. Carnegie Museum. Weight: 14.5 grains. Diameter: 17 mm. "Sold by Spink and Son as Lot #1121 in 1983."

8. John L. Roper. Weight: 19.5 grains. Diameter: no data. "Hint of silvering. Sold 1983, Stack's Lot #6."

9. The present coin. No provenance available, although it may be one of the above specimens.

From *Heritage's* sale of August 1999, Lot 6441.



1135 1652 Pine Tree sixpence. Noe-33. VG-8/F-12. Attractive golden gray surfaces. Some central design weakness on the obverse, obscuring the lower portion of the tree, and with a hint of peripheral weakness seen on both sides. Still a pleasing example of this popular issue.

Weight: 28.2 grains. Diameter: 19.0 mm.



1136 1652 Pine Tree shilling. N-2. VG-8. Large Planchet. Attractive golden gray surfaces with some steel gray in the recessed areas. Sharpness finer than the assigned grade in several places, weakened by nature of strike and flan in other places. Still a highly collectible example of this popular issue, a coin that should be seen in person before bidding judgment is passed.

Of all American coins, the 1652 Pine Tree shilling, Large Planchet, is one of the most famous and most historical. While today the casual observer may consider such pieces to be out of the numismatic mainstream, it is heartening that Dave Bowers' recent multipart article on Pine Tree shillings in his "The Joy of Collecting" column in *Coin World* drew many favorable comments, including from one enthusiastic specialist in silver dollars who said, in effect, "I simply have to buy a Pine Tree shilling now that I know about it!" For virtually any early American coin, pages

of interesting commentary could be written or, for that matter, is already in print.

Weight: 62.8 grains. Diameter: 28.9 mm.

1652 Pine Tree Shilling

Large Planchet



1137 1652 Pine Tree shilling. Noe-8. Large Planchet. EF-45 (PCGS). Medium silver gray with gold and slate highlights in the recessed areas. Nicely struck on a defective flan, with a planchet void at the rim at 6:00 relative to the obverse. Aside from this natural defect, few extraneous marks of any sort can be seen. From a fairly late state of the die, with a large cud encompassing the bottoms of GL in ENGLAND on the reverse, as well as several of the beads in the circle immediately below those letters. Other faint cracks emanate from the date along the horizontal plane in both directions. A pleasing specimen whose very crudeness adds to its historic charm.

Weight: 71.1 grains, nearly perfect for tolerance for the design type—72 grains is full weight for this issue.

Impressive Maryland Sixpence Rarity

Choice Extremely Fine



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

1138 Undated (1659) Maryland sixpence. Cecil Calvert, Second Lord Baltimore issue. Breen-68, Crosby III, 2. EF-45 (PCGS). Attractive steel gray with rose and gold highlights. Nicely struck, with only a modest amount of wear on the high points. Very few contact marks of any sort are noted; one or two tiny marks become apparent under low magnification. The present piece is indeed a highly impressive example of this significant rarity, a piece that combines great historical appeal and high numismatic grade.

Often when Maryland silver pieces of any denomination are encountered, they are holed, plugged, or have damage in one way or another. Probably this is what insured their survival—such pieces were used as jewelry and remained in families as keepsakes. A problem-free Extremely Fine coin such as this is indeed impressive.

Cecil Calvert, the Second Lord Baltimore, inherited virtually absolute control over the colony of Maryland from his father. Young Cecil believed that his father's charter for the Maryland colony granted him the right to coin money.

With this in mind, in 1659 he ordered a silver coinage of shilling, sixpence, and groat (four pence) denominations (as well as a copper coinage of the denarius [penny] denomination) from the Royal Mint in London. Cecil shipped samples to his brother Philip in Maryland, who was then acting as Cecil's secretary for the colony. Calvert's right to strike coins was challenged in England, but upheld by Oliver Cromwell's acting government. The entire issue was relatively small by any standards, and although the coins did circulate in Maryland, by the early 1700s they had largely disappeared from circulation.

Important Maryland Shilling

Lord Baltimore Issue

Prized American Rarity



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1139 Undated (1659) Maryland shilling. Cecil Calvert, Second Lord Baltimore issue. Breen-64, Crosby III, 1. EF-45 (PCGS). Pale silver gray surfaces display warm golden toning on the obverse, with a splash of pearlescent rose on the reverse. A splash of mint lustre remains in the protected areas, especially at the obverse periphery. A nicely struck example of this prized rarity, with very few marks of any consequence noted on either side. A faint, old vertical scratch is noted in the field before Calvert's portrait, but is so unobtrusive as to be almost unworthy of mention. In short, a pleasing example overall. The appearance of a Maryland shilling at public auction always generates excited bidding activity, and we expect the appearance of this specimen will be no exception to that rule. A grand opportunity.

The original grant to the 10 million plus acres of what would become the colony of Maryland was given to George Calvert (circa 1580-1632), the first Lord Baltimore, for his service with the London Company, which had colonized Virginia in 1607. George Calvert died in 1632 during formalities concerned with the grant and charter to Maryland. By late June of 1632, all titles had finally passed to his son, Cecil Calvert. Cecil, the Second Lord Baltimore assumed he had a right to coinage, as the 1606 Virginia charter had delegated the coinage right to his father. Barter, especially with tobacco, was the common mode of trade in the Maryland colony, and a need for a circulating coinage was a constant thorn in the side of the colonists. According to Crosby's reference, Lord Baltimore had to sell his cattle to pay the army in the hope of averting a mutiny! In 1658 Lord Baltimore ordered the above-mentioned coinage. According to Breen, a rival of Calvert, Richard (or perhaps Thomas) Pight, the Clerke of

Irons at the Tower Mint, was a holder of a "Commonwealth commission against false coiners." On October 4, 1659, Pight obtained an arrest warrant against Calvert, and seized his coins and tools. The very next day, Calvert was ordered to attend Council and give evidence. As Breen noted, "Presumably King Charles interrupted any proceedings begun by the floundering Commonwealth."

- 1140 Undated (1641-42) St. Patrick's farthing. B-208, Nothing Below King. VF-20. Medium tan with some darker highlights. A natural flan split extends from the obverse rim at 12:00 to the right side of the crown, but the overall quality of the coin is undisturbed by this natural flaw.

Weight: 93.8 grains. Diameter: 25.6 mm.

FLOREAT evenly spaced save for the A and T, those two letters wider than the other letters in that word. REX widely but evenly spaced, with a single period after that word; no other punctuation on the obverse. Brass splasher intact at crown. Crown with four beads on each side of a central cross. Belly of angel on harp directly opposite bottom of O in FLOREAT, angel's nose points to right side of E in that word. Harpstrings uncountable due to roughness. Reverse with QUIESCAT PLEBS essentially one word, with very modest spacing between the T of QUIESCAT and the P of PLEBS. A dual cross atop the bishop's mitre squeezes its way between those two words. Bishop's hand points just slightly right of the I, the leftmost cross atop the mitre touches the right base of the T. Ball end of Metropolitan cross close to bottom of E in PLEBS, and only slightly right of center of that letter, right uppermost ball and right lowermost ball about equidistant from left arm and top point of cross atop church spire, right arm of that cross points to left side of S, distant from that letter.

- 1141 (1641-42) St. Patrick's farthing. Breen-208, Nothing Below King. VF-20 or finer for sharpness, but somewhat rough and granular in places. Medium mahogany brown with a flash of iridescent blue and rose on the high points. Always popular and always desirable.

Weight: 76.4 grains. Diameter: 25.2 mm.

From same dies as previous lot.

- 1142 1722 Rosa Americana halfpenny. Breen-134. VF-25. Attractive olive surfaces with rich golden toning. Strong design details remain, and the surfaces are essentially mark free save for a small reverse scratch near the rose and ROSA, undoubtedly made decades ago, and insignificant in appearance. An altogether pleasing example of a popular issue.

- 1143 1722 Rosa Americana penny. UTILE DOLCI. Breen-116. MS-60. An outstanding example of the design type, with olive-gold and pale brown toning. A natural flan void, as struck, is seen at George's profile on the obverse, with a similar area on the reverse at the rose below DU. Nicely struck with even the finest central hair details visible. This indeed is an impressive example and will equally delight the advanced specialist as well as anyone making a beginning in coinage relating to early America. The history concerning such pieces is rich and interesting, with *Walter Breen's Complete Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coins* furnishing an excellent overview.

Weight: 123.4 grains. Diameter: 26.7 mm.

- 1144 Trio of popular early issues: ☆ 1722 Rosa Americana twopence. Breen-90. F-12. Olive-gold with lighter golden high points. A few faint marks are noted, but the overall appeal is quite strong for the grade ☆ 1773 Virginia halfpenny. Newman-22S. VF-20. Dark olive-brown verging on black ☆ 1760 Voce Populi copper. B-221, Zelinka-2A. F-15, edge bruises noted for accuracy. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1145 1722 Wood's Hibernia halfpenny. Harp Left. Breen-144. VF-30, with some claims to a higher grade. Deep olive green with lighter brown high points. Somewhat glossy with decent eye appeal all around.

Weight: 98.3 grains. Diameter: 27.7 mm.

1146 1722 Wood's Hibernia halfpenny. Harp Right. Breen-146. MS-63 BN (PCGS). Glossy deep tan surfaces with attractive chocolate toning in the recessed areas. Devoid of stray marks, but a few areas of striking lightness and tiny flan fissures are present. A large reverse break runs along the rim from above the I in HIBERNIA to a spot above the N in that word; the beginning of a major cud is seen above IBE. An intriguing example of this popular issue.

1147 1723/2 Overdate. Wood's Hibernia halfpenny. B-153. EF-40 for sharpness, but surfaces faintly and uniformly porous. Chocolate brown. A popular early overdate.

Weight: 121.2 grains. Diameter: 27.2 mm.

From our sale of the Boyd, Brand & Ryder Collections, March 1990, Lot 1018.

1148 1723 Wood's Hibernia halfpenny. B-155, No Pellet Before H. AU-53 (PCGS). Deep tobacco brown with some lighter tan highlights. A pleasing coin. Broadly double punched A in HIBERNIA.

1149 Trio of popular issues: ☆ 1723 Wood's Hibernia halfpenny. B-157, No Pellet Before H, Small 3. VF-35 ☆ 1724 Wood's Hibernia halfpenny. B-166, Pellet After Date. VF-30 ☆ 1773 Virginia halfpenny. With Period. N-21N. VG-8. Three attractive coins within the perimeters of their assigned grades. (Total: 3 pieces)



1150 1773 Virginia halfpenny. N-3F. No Period. MS-64 RB. Seven Harp Strings. Iridescent red surfaces with deeper toning on the high points. A pleasing coin for the grade, nicely struck and nicely centered with virtually full dentils on both sides.

Weight: 120.0 grains. Diameter: 25.4 mm.

1151 1773 Virginia halfpenny. No Period. N-4G. AU-55 (PCI). Seven Harp Strings. Mahogany brown with some deeper toning on the high points. Pleasing for the grade, and certain to please.

1152 1773 Virginia halfpenny. N-24K. Period after GEORGIUS. MS-60. Seven Harp Strings. Glossy, satiny red and brown surfaces save for a crescent of deep brown porosity below the obverse effigy. A pleasing coin overall, as visual inspection will verify.

Weight: 107.7 grains. Diameter: 24.8 mm.



1153 Undated (1672-94) Elephant token. B-186, Hodder-2B. VF-25. Thick planchet. GOD PRESERVE LONDON. Medium chocolate brown with attractive surfaces devoid of all but the most trivial marks. Indeed a few minimal obverse rim bruises are the only marks of note. Choice for the grade, and wholly pleasing.

Weight: 204.8 grains. Diameter: 28.4 mm.

1154 1760 Voce Populi copper. B-227, Z-7E. VF-30. VOOE variety. Pleasing medium tan surfaces free of marks save for some natural flan fissures at the center, as frequently seen for this issue. Slightly off center on the reverse, with the edge encroaching upon the

tops of ERNI. A minor edge bruise can be seen on the reverse at 3:00, but it does little to detract from the overall quality of the present coin.

Weight: 102.8 grains. Diameter: 26.9 mm.

Delightful "1766" Pitt Token

Struck in Copper



1155 "1766" Pitt token. B-251, Betts-519. AU-50 (PCGS). Copper. Glossy chestnut surfaces with strong eye appeal. Nicely struck, with just a hint of wear on the high points; the main details on both sides are strong and crisp. A decidedly choice example of this popular token that relates to William Pitt, the "Great Commoner" whose sparkling oratories saved the American Colonies from the ravages of the Stamp Act. Undeniably choice for the grade, and worthy of strong bidding support as such.

This particular medalet or token is sometimes denominated as a *halfpenny*, but we have no indication that it ever circulated at a particular value.



1156 "1766" Pitt token. B-251, Betts-519. F-12 (PCGS). Copper. Medium brown with a touch of olive. Well worn in areas, but still choice for the grade, devoid of unsightly marks.

Weight: 78.4 grains. Diameter: 27.9 mm.



1157 1766 Pitt token. Breen-252. VF-35 (PCGS). Brass. Chestnut brown on golden surfaces. A touch of green patina can be seen in certain recessed areas.

Popular 1783 John Chalmers Shilling

Long Worm Variety



1158 1783 Chalmers shilling. Long Worm. B-1012, Crosby IX, 6. VF-20. Pleasing medium gray with some deeper highlights at the rims, slightly weak at the center, as frequently seen for this issue. Nicely centered and devoid of all but some trivial marks. A pleasing coin in all respects.

John Chalmers, an Annapolis silversmith and goldsmith, produced with the date 1783 a series of silver coins of his own design, these being the earliest privately issued pieces in the United States, to actually bear the name of the issuer. Values produced included the threepence, sixpence, and shilling. Certain dies were cut by Thomas Sparrow (another local silversmith), a German who visited America in 1783 and 1784 and who wrote of his trip. Sparrow noted that the Chalmers pieces were produced to prevent some of the abuses being practiced with fractional parts of the Spanish dollar. At that time, the Spanish 8 reales or dollar was sometimes cut with shears into wedge-shaped segments, "pieces of eight," which circulated at the value of a *bit* or 12-1/2 cents. With a little bit of clever handwork, such a coin could be divided into nine or 10 pieces instead of eight, and few recipients of the bits would know the difference.

Among the three Chalmers denominations it seems that the shillings were made in the largest quantities, for these are the most frequently seen today, although the term "frequent" is not at all appropriate—as often a year or so will pass between our offering of a given variety at auction.

For further reading on the subject we recommend "John Chalmers, Issuer of the Annapolis Coinage," by William F. Purlitz, *The Numismatist*, November 1948, and "The Life and Coins of John Chalmers," by Harry W. Schab, in the same publication, November 1984.

FRENCH COLONIES

Until recent decades coins relating to the French Colonies in America were not widely collected, simply because only a few varieties were listed in the *Guide Book of United States Coins*, this being the most widely used introduction to the American series, a volume which has the extraordinary status of being the standard work for advanced collectors as well. In 1988, *Walter Breen's Complete Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coins* was published, bringing to the fore in an easily accessed volume the story of French Colonial coins. From 1988 to the present day, these pieces have become increasingly popular. Our present offering showcases a wide variety of interesting issues, most of which are relatively inexpensive in today's market.

- 1159** French Colonies. 1695-B recoinéd billon sol. Rouen Mint. Breen-276. F-12. Dark pewter gray with some green corrosion at the extreme peripheries. Unusual oblong shape caused by overstriking a hammered billon sol, then striking once more off-center. This scarce issue was rated for circulation in France at 15 deniers, a revaluation from 12 deniers, and were exported in some quantity to French colonies in North America in modern Canada and the United States. The grand majority of these were released by the Paris Mint. As a product of the Rouen Mint, which struck part of the first ever emission of copper coins for the French colonies in North America, this piece is many times scarcer. An interesting and scarce coin, made more interesting by its multiple strike, and grossly underappreciated by today's collectors of colonial coins.

Weight: 20.8 grains.

Many of this issue, which are dated throughout the 1690s, show not only signs of their undertype but of the fleur-de-lis counterstamp that was applied to them in 1640 to unify several different types of circulating billon coins as sols of 12 deniers. These 1640 countermarked sols constituted in part the first shipments of coin from the mainland to the North American colonies.

- 1160** French Colonies. 1710-AA 30 deniers. Metz Mint. Breen-282. VF-35. Pewter and olive-gray with traces of the original surfaces still visible in protected areas of the design. Excellent strike for the issue with all legends bold. Tiny planchet void at rim at 6:00 as struck. Two hard pieces of inactive verdigris are noted on the bottom half of the obverse and are not offensive. A nice specimen of this "mousquetaire" type.

Weight: 34.6 grains. Diameter: 22.4 mm.

- 1161** French Colonies. A pair of scarce demi sou marques de 15 deniers. Breen-295. ☆ 1713-AA. Metz Mint. VF-20. Planchet heavily striated, typical of the issue. Still attractive and well-detailed. 1713-AA. Metz Mint. F-12. Mintmark and peripheral legends worn, but quite pleasing for the grade. (Total: 2 pieces).



- 1162** French Colonies. 1725-K ecu. Bordeaux Mint. Breen-387. VF-20. Dark pewter gray and olive with surfaces corroded by salt water exposure. Part of the treasure of *Le Chameau*, which sunk in August 1725 just off Nova Scotia and remained there until discovered by Alex Storm in the 1960s. The *Chameau* ecus and fractions are the only silver coinage properly considered a part of the French Colonies in North America series besides the 1670 issues, and many of the 9,000 pieces recovered were little more than discs of silver after two centuries of heavy erosion. This piece is a remarkable exception, with all legends and devices plain; George Sobin suggests that only 200 pieces emerged so unscathed. A very scarce piece in such quality, and very infrequently offered.

Weight: 327.6 grains. Diameter: 38.2 mm.

Le Chameau made several trips back and forth between Canada and France in the early 18th century. On its final journey westward, it carried 268,696 livres in newly minted gold and silver coins dated 1724 and 1725. "The money was the payroll for the French troops in Canada," according to author Thomas Schring, and only 6,000 livres were recovered at the time. Treasure salvors Alex Storm and Brian Snow wrote an engrossing account, now unfortunately quite difficult to find, entitled *Canada's Treasure Hunt* which describes the voyage of *Le Chameau* and its salvage in the frigid waters off Nova Scotia.

- 1163** French Colonies. 1741-A sou marque. Paris Mint. Breen-394. EF-45. Technical grade perhaps higher, as nearly full original surfaces remain intact, but weakly struck at centers of both sides and parts of the legend. Bright silver gray, perhaps cleaned long ago but quite natural in appearance. Some nicks near base of L on obverse noted. A scarce date from the early part of the sou marque series and an above average example of the type.

Weight: 32.0 grains. Diameter: 22.5 mm.

- 1164** French Colonies. 1743-A sou marque. Paris Mint. Breen-396. EF-40. Technically Mint State, but sea-salvaged as part of the treasure of the *St. Geran*. Pewter gray with gold and cobalt highlights and lightly corroded surfaces. Still very sharp and quite eye appealing all things considered. Sou marques such as this were not used exclusively in French possessions in North America, but also saw extensive usage in the Caribbean and worldwide. This particular piece was aboard the *St. Geran*, a French East India Company vessel, when she went down off Mauritius on August 17, 1741. Sou marques and Spanish colonial 8 reales were both salvaged from the wreck in the 1950s, and are now quite scarce on the numismatic market.

Weight: 31.1 grains. Diameter: 23.0 mm.

- 1165** French Colonies. 1757-A sou marque. Paris Mint. Breen-114. EF-45. Silver gray with much lustrous original surfaces still visible. A few tiny marks at rim above date are inconsequential. An eye-appealing specimen of this specimen, dated during the French and Indian War.

Weight: 29.5 grains. Diameter: 22.7 mm.

In 1757, the French general Montcalm led his French and Indian forces against Fort William Henry on New York's Lake George. The same troops were later present at Ticonderoga before Montcalm died at Quebec in 1759.

- 1166 French Colonies. 1762-BB sou marque. Strasbourg Mint. Breen-634. EF-40. Pleasing silver and pewter gray with most of the original surfaces still intact. Excellent eye appeal for the grade. A superb specimen of the type for the colonial type collector.

Weight: 36.0 grains. Diameter: 22.7 mm.

- 1167 A pair of avidly-sought French Colonies issues: ☆ 1740-D half sou. Lyon Mint. Breen-668. F-12. Glossy pewter gray with excellent eye appeal and a sharp strike for the issue. Dozens of times rarer than its sou marque counterparts. Most, like this one, are dated 1740. ☆ 1767 (1793) copper sol. Countermarked RF. Breen-701. EF-40. Superb glossy rich chocolate brown with brassy devices. Struck with a "railroad rim" or partial collar, an error not before seen on one of these. Immense eye appeal; a far above average specimen. (Total: 2 pieces).

- 1168 French Colonies. 1721-H 9 deniers. La Rochelle Mint. Breen-261. VF-30. Pleasing light brown and tan with brassy highlights. Some pitting, though not as severe as frequently seen on this issue. A few rim nicks are easily not mentioned. An above average specimen of this date and type, shipped in quantities to French possessions throughout North America including Canada and the newly-founded city of New Orleans.

Weight: 76.8 grains. Diameter: 25.9 mm.

- 1169 French Colonies. 1722-H 9 deniers. La Rochelle Mint. Breen-263. VF-35. Dark olive-brown with tan devices. Some glossy surface corrosion blends into the field and does not detract from very nice eye appeal. Nice detail for the issue and well struck. A splendid specimen of the type.

Weight: 93.8 grains. Diameter: 25.5 mm.

- 1170 French Colonies. 1722-H 9 deniers. La Rochelle Mint. Breen-263. VF-25. Attractive medium brown with light porosity. Some fairly heavy scratches on obverse above LO of COLONIES and some abrasions at central reverse noted. Well detailed with all legends bold and a more than acceptable specimen of the type.

Weight: 101.4 grains. Diameter: 26.0 mm.

- 1171 French Colonies. 1767-A sou. Paris Mint. Breen-701. Countermarked RF. EF-45. Superb glossy deep mahogany patina. Perfectly centered and well-detailed, with a minor planchet fissure at obverse rim at 5:30. Despite some microscopic corrosion hiding within the obverse legends, this is an extremely choice specimen of this popular issue and would be exceedingly difficult to improve upon. Worthy for inclusion in any collection of colonial coins.

Weight: 193.6 grains. Diameter: 28.5 mm.

- 1172 French Colonies. 1767-A sou. Paris Mint. Breen-701. Countermarked RF. VF-25. Medium brown with brassy highlights. Cleaned and lacquered long ago, now retuned and quite attractive. Some scratches at central reverse (a problem that plagues this issue) and minor rim bump at 6:30 on reverse noted. A sharp and pleasing specimen.

Weight: 187.1 grains. Diameter: 27.7 mm.

- 1173 French Colonies. 1767 sous with and without countermark: ☆ Breen-700. No countermark. F-12. Attractive light brown with a few scattered pits. A pleasing specimen ☆ Breen-701. With countermark. Net F-15. VF-25 in sharpness, but lightly corroded and scratched "H" in 18th century lettering at the center of the reverse. Still a nice specimen with an unusual graffiti greeting. (Total: 2 pieces).

NOVA CONSTELLATIO

The 1783-1785 Nova Constellatio coinage believed to have been struck in England, relates to America and serves as an interesting introduction to the prolific state coinage which had its inception in 1785. The next several lots offer in essence an overview of the series, bringing to auction some of the more popular varieties.

Delightful 1783 Nova Constellatio

Crosby-2B, Small U.S., Pointed Rays



- 1174 1783 Nova Constellatio. Breen-1107, Crosby-2B. Small U.S., Pointed Rays. AU-55 (PCGS). Correct CONSTELLATIO spelling. Medium brown with some red in the recessed areas. Nicely struck with virtually full details at the all-seeing eye. Some minor planchet roughness, as struck, is noted for accuracy, otherwise the surfaces are basically free of unsightly marks.



- 1175 1783 Nova Constellatio. B-1107, C-2B. Small U.S., Pointed Rays. AU-55 (PCGS). Correct CONSTELLATIO spelling. Medium chestnut brown surfaces devoid of marks of any consequence. Absolutely pleasing for the grade, and choice as well.



- 1176 1783 Nova Constellatio. B-1107, C-2B. Small U.S., Pointed Rays. EF-40 (PCGS). Correct CONSTELLATIO spelling. Medium brown surfaces with a touch of olive. Some natural flan fissures appear on each side, but the design details are sharp and crisp for the grade.

Weight: 121.6 grains. Diameter: 26.1 mm.

Accompanied by a certificate attesting to the coin's genuine nature, issued by the Colonial American Coin Club, and signed by Walter Breen and Don Taxay.

- 1177 1783 Nova Constellatio. B-1107, C-2B. Small U.S., Pointed Rays. EF-40, very lightly cleaned long ago and since naturally retuned (PCGS). Correct CONSTELLATIO spelling. Medium tan with some iridescent rose in the recessed areas. A few faint marks are noted, but solely for accuracy. Pleasing overall.

Weight: 109.3 grains. Diameter: 26.4 mm.



- 1178 1783 Nova Constellatio copper. B-1109, C-3C. Small U.S., Blunt Rays. EF-45 or finer. Incorrect CONSTELATIO spelling. Chocolate brown surfaces show light porosity but very few marks of any size. Sharp and well defined, especially at the centers. A minuscule edge clip is noted at 4:00 in relation to the obverse. An attractive coin overall, one that could just as easily be called "Almost Uncirculated."

Weight: 123.8 grains. Diameter: 27.5 mm.

- 1179 1785 Nova Constellatio. B-1111, C-3B. Script U.S., Pointed Rays. VF-20. Correct CONSTELLATIO spelling. Sharpness easily congruent with the grade, surfaces microscopically porous. Medium brown with lighter high points. Die break in wreath above date.

Weight: 118.9 grains. Diameter: 27.5 mm.

- 1180 1785 Nova Constellatio. B-1113, C-4D. Script U.S., Pointed Rays. VF-35 (PCGS). Correct CONSTELLATIO spelling. Deep tan with chocolate brown highlights. A few stray marks are noted, but the overall appeal is substantial for the grade.



- 1181 1787 Massachusetts half cent. Ryder-4C. EF-45. Chocolate brown and deep tan with deeper brown toning in the recessed areas. Strong design details present. A touch of faint surface porosity can be seen in places, but the overall appeal is strong for the grade.

Weight: 83.9 grains. Diameter: 24.4 mm.



- 1182 1787 Massachusetts half cent. R-4C. VF-30. Chocolate brown surfaces devoid of marks save for a faint, light spot of patina in the field near the second M in COMMON on the obverse. Strong design details on both sides.

Weight: 70.4 grains. Diameter: 23.9 mm.

The other day we were reading a 19th-century account of Jacob Perkins, one of two engravers who prepared dies for the 1787-1788 Massachusetts coinage. Perkins, who has been well chronicled in the annals of history, departed Newburyport, Massachusetts, and went to England, where he achieved even greater prominence. This particular article was about a steam-operated *gun* that he had devised, capable of firing 1,000 rounds *per minute*. It was demonstrated to British and French officials, who admired it greatly, but upon reflection decided that it would not be practical for use in combat. In numismatic circles Perkins is best known for his stereotype plates used to print bank notes. For a quick reference an account of his life appears in the book *The History of United States Coinage as Illustrated by the Garrett Collection*.

- 1183 Selection of popular issues: ☆ 1788 Massachusetts cent. R-8. F-12. Dark brown with olive traces ☆ 1787 Connecticut copper. M 30hh.1. Draped Bust Left. VF-20 (PCGS). Brown with lighter points ☆ 1787 Nova Eborac copper. Reverse figure seated to left. B-986. VF-25 (PCGS). Deep tan ☆ 1785 Vermont copper. VERMONTIS. R-4, B-3C. Landscape. VG-8. Deep brown patination in the fields, golden high points. (Total: 4 pieces)

CONNECTICUT COPPERS

Of all state coinages, the 1785-1788 Connecticut coppers are the most extensive, comprising well over 300 die varieties and combinations. Our selection is modest and includes over a dozen mostly popular varieties.

- 1184 1787 Connecticut copper. Miller 2-A.1. Mailed Bust Right. Rarity-4. F-12, sharper in areas. Medium tan with some golden highlights. Flan roughness, is noted on both sides, obscuring portions of the devices; those portions not obscured by the natural fissures are quite sharp.

Weight: 133.5 grains. Diameter: 29.3 mm.



- 1185 1787 Connecticut copper. M 9-E. Mailed Bust Left. Rarity-6+. VF-20. Struck some 10% off center on the obverse, with the rim touching the top of T in AUCTORI, then cutting through the center of the O, leaving just the bottom of the R and I on the flan. The edge also cuts through the upper hair of effigy, with just the bottom of the first C in CONNEC present. The edge cuts through the center of the ON in that word as well. A second row of dentils appears at the bottom obverse rim. Olive-brown with lighter tan high points. Faintly porous but still with sharp and crisp central design motifs. On the reverse, LIB is somewhat weakened. An altogether pleasing example of this rare variety, one that easily meets the requisites of the assigned grade and then some.

Weight: 137.6 grains. Diameter: 28.1 mm. Die alignment: 90°.

- 1186 1787 Connecticut copper. M 19-g.4. Draped Bust Left. VG-8, generally finer in areas. Deep tan with lighter tan high points. Some natural flan marks are present, otherwise contact marks are at a minimum.

Weight: 152.7 grains. Diameter: 28.3 mm.

- 1187 1787 Connecticut copper. M 32.2-X.2. Draped Bust Left. Rarity-3. VF-20, sharpness of a higher grade in places. Dark brown with olive green in the fields, lighter brown on the high points. Some areas of faint green patina and scattered patches of roughness are present, as are three tiny edge marks at the left of the obverse. Still, an above-average example of a variety which is represented by a large number of low-grade pieces.

Weight: 124.0 grains. Diameter: 28.9 mm.

- 1188 1787 Connecticut copper. M 33.2-Z.12. Draped Bust Left. VF-20. Deep brown with lighter brown high points. Surfaces faintly porous, but still an appealing Connecticut copper.

Weight: 117.3 grains. Diameter: 28.6 mm.

- 1189 1787 Connecticut copper. M 33.7-r.2. Draped Bust Left. VF-20 or finer in places, but lightly and evenly porous. Some faint flan laminations are seen on the obverse, otherwise the surfaces are fairly mark free. Nicely centered with full legends and date.

Weight: 133.2 grains. Diameter: 28.5 mm.



- 1190 1787 Connecticut copper. M 33.8-Z.13. Draped Bust Left. Rarity-5. EF-40 (PCGS). Iridescent tan surfaces with some deeper toning in the recessed areas. Some striking weakness at the center, as is typical for this die combination. Struck slightly off center as well, another typical occurrence for this variety. Where struck, the details are sharp and bold. A delightful Connecticut copper with significant claims to Condition Census for the variety.

Weight: 116.8 grains. Die alignment: 235°.

- 1191 1787 Connecticut copper. M 33.14-Z.14. Draped Bust Left. Rarity-6. F-12, finer in places. Medium tan with some olive highlights. Semicircular violet toning streaks are noted, one on each side. A few faint flan flaws are noted, as struck, but post striking contact marks are at an absolute minimum. A hint of weakness on reverse at ET LIB, otherwise sharp for the grade. A rare variety that should see strong bidder support. Usually seen state of the dies, die crack on obverse begins below effigy's bust and continues through AUCTO, then above R. On the reverse, a die crack extends from the rim at 10:00, running to Miss Liberty's branch hand.

Weight: 110.3 grains. Diameter: 27.9 mm.

- 1192 1787 Connecticut copper. M 33.36-T.2. Draped Bust Left. F-12, finer in places. Uniform faint porosity on both sides. Slightly off center on the reverse, with the tops of DE and Miss Liberty's head at the rim. Obverse bulged at effigy's breast.

Weight: 124.6 grains. Diameter: 28.7 mm.

- 1193 1787 Connecticut copper. M 37.13-HH. Draped Bust Left. Rarity-5. F-12 for sharpness, lightly cleaned long ago. Golden brown surfaces with deeper brown toning highlights. A few scattered marks and some tiny rim bruises noted. Nicely centered on the reverse, with full date evident. A rare variety. A remarkable Connecticut copper, by virtue of its fairly heavy weight as noted below.

Weight: 166.4 grains. Diameter: 28.1 mm.

- 1194 1787 Connecticut copper. M 39.2-ee. Draped Bust Left. Rarity-5. VG-10. AUCTOBI / ET LIR variety. Struck some 10% to 15% off center, with the legends on the left side of the obverse completely off the flan; just the bottoms of ET LIR all that can be seen on the right side of the reverse. Additionally, the date is off the flan. Olive-brown with some golden highlights. Evidence of die collapse around EC on the obverse, an intriguing example of a fairly rare variety.

Weight: 118.0 grains. Diameter: 28.0 mm. Die alignment: 350°.

- 1195 1787 Connecticut copper. M 44-W.4. Draped Bust Left. Rarity-4. VF-20. Chocolate brown surfaces with lighter tan high points. Some microgranularity is present, but the overall appearance is pleasing. Struck somewhat low on the reverse, with just the top half of the date numerals on the flan.

Weight: 128.9 grains. Diameter: 28.4 mm.

- 1196 1787 Connecticut copper. M 46-BB. Draped Bust Left. Rarity-5. VF-20, finer in places. Dark brown verging on black, with golden brown high points. Faint, uniform porosity noted on both sides. Free of noticeable marks, save for some natural flan flaws, as struck. An edge flaw to the right of the date is also noted.

Weight: 141.1 grains. Diameter: 28.2 mm.



- 1197 1788 Connecticut copper. M 2-D. Mailed Bust Right. VF-20, finer in places. Attractive medium tan. Devoid of post-striking contact marks, although some natural flan flaws, as struck, are noted, especially at the center. An attractive example of this frequently encountered variety, the present coin is nearly equivalent to Perkins:493 (Stack's) for overall sharpness. Slightly more advanced than an early die state for this variety, with the line connecting the first star in the A in AUCTORI present, and with the die chip below the effigy's shoulder just making its presence known. A planchet cutter lip surrounds much of the obverse periphery.

Weight: 119.6 grains. Diameter: 27.7 mm.



- 1198 1788 Connecticut copper. M 16.1-H. Draped Bust Left. Rarity-4. EF-40. Pleasing dark brown surfaces with some lighter highlights on the high points. Nicely struck on the obverse, with all legends and design elements bold and crisp. Some peripheral weakness is noted on the reverse, especially at INDE and the following punctuation. Close scrutiny of the reverse reveals strong evidence of die ejection doubling. The Taylor specimen, there presented as Lot 2726.

Weight: 115.2 grains. Diameter: 27.2 mm.

From our sale of the Taylor Collection, March 1987, Lot 2726.

- 1199 1788 Connecticut copper. M 16.3-N. Draped Bust Left. VF-20. Dark brown with olive highlights. Surfaces uniformly microgranular, but not detracting in any way. A few scattered marks are present, but the overall appeal is strong for the grade.

Weight: 108.5 grains. Diameter: 27.8 mm.

From our sale of the Boyd, Brand, & Ryder Collections, March 1990, Lot 1098.

Exceptionally High-Grade 1787 Nova Eborac



- 1200 1787 Nova Eborac (New York) copper. Figure Seated Left. Breen-986. AU-50 (PCGS). A truly delightful example of this popular issue. Medium chestnut brown with some lighter high

points. Above average surfaces for the issue, with some glossy, hard places. Nicely centered as well, and, amazingly, a sharp and full date is present. A coin that will delight the most advanced specialist.

Although the 1787 Nova Eborac coinage exists for us to contemplate, relatively little is known about the actual authorization or striking of these pieces. The topic has been discussed now and again in *The Colonial Newsletter*, founded by Al Hoch and brought to a grand degree of excellence by Jim Spilman, now published by the American Numismatic Society. If any of our readers are not members of the Society and would like to join, and would like to learn about subscribing to this publication, a note to the editor (QDB) will bring complete information. In the meantime, *Walter Breen's Complete Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coins* synthesizes much of what is known about these pieces.



1201 1787 Nova Eborac copper. Figure Seated Left. Breen-986. EF-40 (PCGS). Medium brown with some lighter high points. Slightly off center, just barely affecting the bottom of the obverse and the top of the reverse. Date weakened in areas as typically seen. Still a pleasing example for the grade.

1202 1787 Nova Eborac copper. B-986, C VIII, 11. VF-30. Pleasing medium tan surfaces devoid of extraneous marks. Struck slightly off center, with the obverse edge through the center of NOVA, and with the reverse rim all but eliminating VIRT ET from the flan. Partial date present, with 178 fairly strong, the final 7 difficult to detect. A pleasing coin overall.

Weight: 135.6 grains. Diameter: 28.0 mm.

NEW JERSEY COPPERS

We are pleased to offer in the following section a wonderful group of New Jersey coppers. While perhaps not on a scale with that of the Taylor or Garrett collections (two landmark groups of New Jersey coppers we sold in the past), the present sale is still chock full of nice coppers. No fewer than 41 different New Jersey copper varieties are offered, including duplicates of several varieties in a range of grades. Of particular interest are the four specimens of the popular and desirable Head Left variety, which include a Maris 49-f, and three Maris 50-f. Many other scarce to rare varieties are featured, and several are notable *Condition Census* examples of their variety.

1203 1787 New Jersey copper. Maris 6-C. Rarity-4. VG-8. Medium olive-brown. Fairly strong design elements for the grade, but with faintly granular surfaces. Some central obverse weakness is noted, not unusual for this particular variety. Perhaps the scarcest of all Rarity-4 New Jersey coppers; certainly dozens of the Maris 6-D die combination are seen for every Maris 6-C, at least on this cataloguer's (Frank Van Valen) desk.

Weight: 130.8 grains. Diameter: 30.1 mm.

Reverse C was also used on the famous variety with date under plow beam.

1204 1787 New Jersey copper. M 6-D. VF-20 for sharpness, but surfaces uniformly granular. Medium olive-brown. Typical reverse die state, with crack at tip of shield extending toward the rim in both directions.

Weight: 139.6 grains. Diameter: 29.1 mm.

From our sale of the *Commodore Matthew C. Perry Collection*, January 1995, Lot 2253.

1205 1787 New Jersey copper. M 6-D. Sharpness of VF-20, but uniformly porous and cleaned long ago. Same die state as preceding lot.

Weight: 140.9 grains. Diameter: 28.7 mm.



1206 1786 New Jersey copper. M 14-J. EF-40, cleaned long ago. Now naturally retoning to a pleasing medium tan. Strong design elements, especially at the center. Obverse bulge at center runs across plow handles and tip of horse's neck. A small edge clip is noted at 11:00 relative to the obverse.

Weight: 134.6 grains. Diameter: 27.6 mm.

1207 1786 New Jersey copper. M 14-J. VF-20. Dark chestnut with golden brown toning highlights on the high points. Small areas of patination are noted on both sides. Fairly strong at the centers, without sign of obverse bulge.

Weight: 150.8 grains. Diameter: 28.4 mm.

1208 Trio of 1786-dated New Jersey coppers: ☆ M 15-L. Rarity-3. VG-8 for sharpness, but with a plethora of scattered marks on both sides ☆ 1786 M 17-J. Rarity-4. VG-8. Medium tan with darker toning in the recessed areas. Struck on a broad, thin flan with a planchet crack that reaches diagonally across the upper hemisphere of the coin from 10:00 to 1:00; the same flaw stretches across the reverse as well ☆ M 23-R. Rarity-3. VG-8, dark brown with microscopic porosity. (Total: 3 pieces)

1209 1786 New Jersey copper. M 15-T. Rarity-4. F-12, sharpness congruent with the assigned grade, but lightly cleaned long ago and with many scattered marks on both sides. A scarce variety.

Weight: 134.5 grains. Diameter: 27.7 mm.

1210 1786 New Jersey copper. M 15-U. Rarity-5+. F-12 for sharpness, but harshly cleaned long ago. Now naturally retoning to medium tan with some red and violet iridescence. Scattered marks and faint, old scratches on both sides. Still, a viable candidate to fill this slot in your collection. A very scarce issue.

Weight: 125.5 grains. Diameter: 27.6 mm.



1211 1786 New Jersey copper. M 16-L. EF-40. The Protruding Tongue variety, so-named owing to an obverse die break at the tip of the horse's muzzle. Deep chocolate brown with olive highlights. Some small patches of patination are noted on the obverse, and an old, shallow reverse scrape is noted at the top of the shield. The overall appeal of this specimen is quite strong despite a few minor disturbances. From a moderately late die state, with the rim cud at 3:00 touching the tops of R and E in C-ESAREA.

Weight: 152.6 grains. Diameter: 27.9 mm.

1212 1786 New Jersey copper. M 16-L. VF-20. Protruding Tongue variety. Pleasing medium brown surfaces devoid of all but a few trivial marks, and attractive as such. Some central striking weakness is noted, not unusual for the variety. From the same die state as the preceding lot.

Weight: 130.6 grains. Diameter: 27.6 mm.

- 1213** 1786 New Jersey copper. M 17-K. Rarity-3. VF-30 for sharpness, finer in areas. Olive-brown surfaces with lighter golden high points. Some minor flattening at the rims is noted, on the obverse at 6:00 and 11:00, and again on the reverse at 12:00 and 7:00. Still a pleasing coin overall, and not far from the low end of the Condition Census for the variety.
Weight: 147.7 grains. Diameter: 30.1 mm.
- 1214** 1786 New Jersey copper. M 21-N. VF-30. Pleasing medium tan. Strong design elements present for the assigned grade. Some very faint flan fissures noted on the obverse, otherwise the surfaces are devoid of extraneous marks. A choice example that should fare well in the auction arena.
Weight: 152.1 grains. Diameter: 28.3 mm.
- 1215** 1786 New Jersey copper. M 21-O. Rarity-5. VF-30 for sharpness, but surfaces uniformly granular. Perhaps lightly cleaned long ago. Medium tan with some darker patination in the recessed areas. Nicely centered, with bold and full dentils on both sides. Reverse die crack connects second star in legend with PL in PLURIBUS.
Weight: 140.9 grains. Diameter: 28.1 mm.
From M & G's Fourth Annual C-4 Convention Sale, November 1998, Lot 300.
- 1216** 1786 New Jersey copper. M 21-P. Rarity-5. VF-20. Surfaces medium tan with some olive, perhaps lightly cleaned long ago. Faintly granular on both sides. Some reverse flan fissures are noted at the shield, otherwise very few marks of any note are present. An attractive example, overall, of a scarce and desirable variety.
Weight: 125.7 grains. Diameter: 27.9 mm.
- 1217** 1786 New Jersey copper. M 23-R. Rarity-3. VF-20. Medium chestnut with light tan high points. Some green patination is noted at 3:00 on the obverse, and at a corresponding spot on the reverse. Still a visually pleasing coin overall.
Weight: 151.4 grains. Diameter: 28.8 mm.
- 1218** 1786 New Jersey copper. M 24-P. F-12. Golden tan with some deeper highlights in the protected areas. Some faint, old scratches on the reverse become evident when viewed under low magnification, but the overall eye appeal of the piece is substantial for the assigned grade.
Weight: 141.1 grains. Diameter: 28.3 mm.
- 1219** 1786 New Jersey copper. M 24-R. Rarity-5. F-12. Harshly cleaned to an unnatural brightness some time ago, now retoning to shades of dark brown and slate in the recessed areas. All things considered, still a suitable and collectible example of this very scarce variety.
Weight: 128.8 grains. Diameter: 27.8 mm.
- 1220** 1787 New Jersey copper. M 27-S. Rarity-5. G-4/VG-8 for general sharpness, attempted punctures at center of obverse and reverse. Golden brown with deeper highlights. A scarce variety.
Weight: 138.2 grains. Diameter: 27.8 mm.
- 1221** Trio of 1787-dated New Jersey coppers: ☆ M 28-L. Rarity-3. VG-8 ☆ M 37-f. Rarity-4. G-4. The Goiter variety. A scattering of tiny flan fissures and a central obverse mark noted for accuracy ☆ M 39-A. Rarity-4. F-15. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 1222** 1787 New Jersey copper. M 32-T. EF-45. A medium tan specimen with some olive toning highlights. Some scattered marks are noted, but the sharpness of the present specimen more than atones for those small blemishes.
Weight: 146.9 grains. Diameter: 27.4 mm.
From M & G's Sale of the Griffie Collection, October 1995, Lot 52; Mid America's sale of September 1990, Lot 79.

- 1223** 1787 New Jersey copper. M 32-T. VF-25. Deep tan with lighter tan high points. Some faint patination spots are seen, and the surfaces are faintly granular. Overall, however, the coin is quite pleasing for the assigned grade.
Weight: 142.7 grains. Diameter: 27.4 mm.
- 1224** 1787 New Jersey copper. M 32-T. VF-20. Pleasing medium tan with deeper olive highlights. Some faint, old marks are noted, but the overall appeal is strong for the grade.
Weight: 128.0 grains. Diameter: 27.7 mm.
- 1225** 1787 New Jersey copper. M 34-J. Rarity-3. VF-20. An altogether lovely chocolate brown specimen, overstruck on a Connecticut copper, as attested to by Liberty's arm and branch hand, both of which are plainly evident on the reverse shield. No other traces of the undertype can be seen on either side. A choice coin for the grade, with plenty of eye appeal, this attractive specimen easily approaches the low end of the Condition Census for the variety.
Weight: 133.7 grains. Diameter: 29.5 mm.
- 1226** 1787 New Jersey copper. M 34-J. Rarity-3. F-15. Overstruck on a Connecticut copper. Medium chestnut with deeper toning. Probably lightly cleaned long ago. Liberty's inverted branch hand protrudes from the truncation of the horse's chest, while Liberty's head shows plainly on the plow share. Portions of the Connecticut copper's obverse effigy can be seen on the reverse.
Weight: 137.6 grains. Diameter: 29.5 mm.
- 1227** 1787 New Jersey copper. M 34-J. Rarity-3. F-15, much finer in places but on a granular and streaky flan. Overstruck on a Connecticut copper, with peripheral legends from the host coin noticeable on the reverse following UNUM. Medium chestnut with dark patination in the fissured areas. From a late obverse die state, with a prominent chip out of the die causing a large cud that completely obliterates the 8 in the date.
Weight: 144.5 grains. Diameter: 29.5 mm.

Attractive 1787 New Jersey Copper

Maris 38-Y, Condition Census



- 1228** 1787 New Jersey copper. M 38-Y. Rarity-4. VF-25, finer in places but the flan is lightly peppered with tiny, natural fissures. Medium tan and virtually devoid of any surface marks save for the previously mentioned natural marks. Struck slightly off center, with the rim at the bottom of the date numerals on the obverse, and with the reverse rim touching the tops of US UN. Additionally, a planchet cutter mark bisects the date, running from 5:00 around the periphery to 8:00. The previously mentioned flaws do little to detract from the overall appeal of this specimen, and we are certain that potential bidders will be pleased with what they see! A lovely piece that falls firmly in the Condition Census for the variety.
Weight: 136.0 grains. Diameter: 27.3 mm.
From Superior's sale of May 1994, Lot 27.
- 1229** 1787 New Jersey copper. M 38-Y. Rarity-4. VF-20. Chocolate brown and mahogany fields with lighter golden brown high points. Moderately worn in areas, but distinctly free of surface marks and abrasions. A tiny edge clip is noted at 7:00 relative to the obverse. An altogether pleasing example of a scarce variety.
Weight: 143.5 grains. Diameter: 27.4 mm.

- 1230** 1787 New Jersey copper. M 38-Z. Rarity-4. F-15, finer in places. Light olive-brown with lighter high points. **The present coin is currently listed in the Condition Census for the variety**, at a grade specified to be VF+. We feel that grade may be a trifle strong, even given the notorious weakness of coins struck from die combinations that include Maris' obverse 38. However, surely other New Jersey specialists have viewed this particular specimen, and we are probably just being overly cautious. F-15 or VF+, either way, the potential bidder is presented a pleasing example of this very scarce die combination.

Weight: 145.0 grains. Diameter: 27.7 mm.

- 1231** 1787 New Jersey copper. M 38-c. Rarity-3. VF-20. Medium tan with a touch of olive. The surfaces are lightly microgranular, but the only extraneous mark worthy of note is on the reverse at the top of the shield; even that is ancient, perhaps contemporary to the era of issue. A very pleasing example of a die combination that is typically found much weaker than the present specimen, and often times much rougher as well.

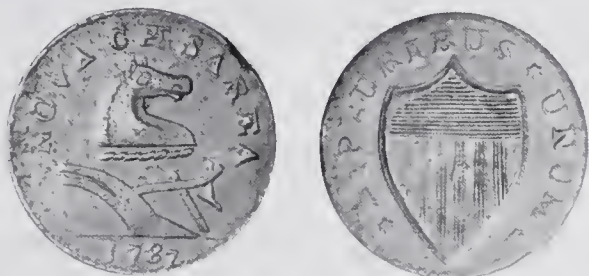
Weight: 144.8 grains. Diameter: 27.2 mm.

- 1232** 1787 New Jersey copper. M 38-c. Rarity-3. VF-20 for sharpness, even marginally finer in places. However, the upper right quadrant of the obverse is very rough, no doubt as struck, obliterating AR in CÆSAREA. Microscopically granular on both sides as well, with some planchet marks on the reverse. Medium golden tan, and much more attractive than the above description would lead one to believe.

Weight: 145.4 grains. Diameter: 27.8 mm.

Impressive 1787 New Jersey Copper

Maris 39-a, Probable Condition Census



- 1233** 1787 New Jersey copper. M 39-a. EF-40. Deep tan surfaces display a hint of mahogany, particularly on the reverse. Sharp and attractive, with full mane details and other facial features on the horse, and with a strong shield on the reverse. A touch of peripheral weakness is noted at the tops of E PL on reverse, otherwise the legends are strong as well. A tiny obverse edge clip is noted at 2:00. Lightly granular in places, but still an exciting coin. The current Condition Census for this New Jersey copper variety includes a group of six specimens called EF, of which the present coin is no doubt a member. If not, it certainly ought to be!

Weight: 145.3 grains. Diameter: 27.2 mm.

From M & G's sale of the Dooley Collection, January 1997, Lot 57.

- 1234** 1787 New Jersey copper. M 43-Y. Rarity-4. VG-8/VF-20. Double struck on both sides, with a tab indent strike on the reverse rim at 3:00 as well. Microgranular olive-brown surfaces with lighter high points. Two distinct plow beams are seen on the obverse, while the reverse sports two shields. This particular strike doubling was not noted in our consignor's notes. An interest example of a fairly scarce variety.

Weight: 144.2 grains. Diameter: 27.7 mm.

Important 1787 N.J. Copper

Condition Census



- 1235** 1787 New Jersey copper. M 43-d. AU-50. Rich chocolate brown with hints of light olive. Choice surfaces and sharp strike combine impressively. Slightly off center on the obverse, with the rim encroaching upon the tops of NO, somewhat so on the reverse as well, with the rim encroaching upon the tops of PLU. Although a common variety, Rarity-1 in fact, the vast majority of known specimens are VF or lower. The current Condition Census for the variety lists two Uncirculated pieces, a single AU piece (perhaps this very coin?), and three pieces called EF. If the present specimen is not the AU coin listed in that Condition Census, then room needs to be made in that census so that the present coin may take its rightful place therein. A beautiful New Jersey copper in all respects.

Weight: 153.9 grains. Diameter: 26.8 mm.

- 1236** 1787 New Jersey copper. M 43-d. VF-20. Medium tan with some darker areas. A tiny field mark behind the horse's head and a tiny rim bruise on the obverse at 1:00 are the only circulation marks worthy of note. Some faint porosity appears in places, but the overall appeal is quite strong.

Weight: 149.2 grains. Diameter: 27.1 mm.

- 1237** 1787 New Jersey copper. M 43-d. F-12 for sharpness, but surfaces uniformly granular and somewhat dark. Struck off center, with the obverse rim obscuring all but the very bottoms of NOVA, with the same occurring at PLURI on the reverse.

Weight: 136.7 grains. Diameter: 26.7 mm.

- 1238** 1787 New Jersey copper. M 44-d. Rarity-4. VF-20. Deep olive-brown fields support light tan devices. A few faint marks and some striking weakness at the top of the obverse do little to detract from the grade quality of this specimen.

Weight: 141.5 grains. Diameter: 27.2 mm.

- 1239** 1787 New Jersey copper. M 44-d. Rarity-4. F-12. Deep tan and mahogany blend on fairly solid surfaces. Some scattered marks are noted, but the overall appeal is quite strong for the grade. From a late state of the obverse die, with a prominent crack that runs from the rim above the S in CÆSAREA, running from there across the tops of SARE in that word, terminating at the rim above the final A in that word.

Weight: 151.7 grains. Diameter: 27.2 mm.



- 1240** 1787 New Jersey copper. M 46-e. AU-55 (PCGS). Attractive chestnut brown surfaces. Nicely struck in all places. From a fairly early state of the dies, with clash marks evident and the bulge at the date just beginning to obscure the 1 and 7. A delightful coin for the grade, and a probable candidate for admission to the low end of the Condition Census for the variety.

- 1241** 1787 New Jersey copper. M 46-e. VF-25. Olive-brown with golden brown high points. From a middle state of the obverse die, with clash marks evident and a bulge at the top of 178 in the date. An attractive coin for the grade.

Weight: 150.8 grains. Diameter: 27.4 mm.

- 1242** 1787 New Jersey copper. M 46-e. VF-20. Attractive chestnut brown surfaces display some tiny, natural flaws, but no extraneous marks worthy of mention. From a later state of the obverse die than the preceding lot, with the obverse bulge now obscuring the 1 in the date along with much of the following 7. A pleasing coin overall.

Weight: 151.5 grains. Diameter: 27.6 mm.

From M & G's sale of the Dooley Collection, January 1997, Lot 60.

- 1243** 1787 New Jersey copper. M 46-e. F-12. Double struck. Deep tan with medium tan on the high points. Some faint, old obverse scratches are noted. Moderately late state of dies, obverse bulge obliterates all but the final 7 in the date, clash marks prominent. Double struck, with NOVA plainly double struck on the obverse, with the same holding true for E PLURIB on the reverse

Weight: 147.1 grains. Diameter: 28.0 mm.

- 1244** Trio of 1787-dated New Jersey coppers: ☆ M 46-e. VG-8 ☆ M 48-g. F-15. Dark, porous in places, with black patina in areas of the reverse ☆ M 52-i. Rarity-3. F-12. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1245** 1787 New Jersey copper. M 48-g. VF-35. Deep chocolate brown with lighter golden brown high points. A pleasing coin with attractive surfaces that are essentially free of detracting marks. From an early state of the reverse die, without the crack that usually crosses the shield.

Weight: 146.5 grains. Diameter: 27.7 mm.

- 1246** 1787 New Jersey copper. M 48-g. VF-35. Deep chocolate brown with lighter tan high points. A pleasing coin for the grade, free of detracting marks and blemishes. Late state of the reverse die, with die crack from the rim through M in UNUM then diagonally upward across the shield.

Weight: 151.1 grains. Diameter: 27.7 mm.

- 1247** 1787 New Jersey copper. M 48-g. AG-3/VG-8. Medium tan with darker tan highlights. Somewhat porous on both sides. Perhaps from the terminal die state of the reverse, with the crack from the rim through the M very strong. The second U in UNUM is weak. Perhaps unique in this late die state.

Weight: 159.2 grains. Diameter: 28.7 mm.

- 1248** 1788 New Jersey copper. M 49-f. Rarity-5. VF-30 for sharpness, finer in places. Head Left. One of the desirable Head Left varieties. Glossy deep olive-brown surfaces. A shallow furrow crosses the obverse and reverse, and the left side of the flan has been tamped flat in areas. Evidently, the furrow represents the point of contact for a gripping tool, illustrating how the coin was gripped when the edge was tamped flat. Problems aside, still a most pleasing example of this rare and desirable issue. Certainly worthy of in-person examination.

Weight: 151.1 grains. Diameter: 28.1 mm.



- 1249** 1788 New Jersey copper. M 50-f. Rarity-3. VF-20. Head Left. Deep chocolate brown with a touch of lighter highlights on the

high points. Microscopically granular on both sides, but still a pleasing example of the design type. Some central weakness at the obverse, not an unusual occurrence for this die pair. Among the most popular and desirable of all the New Jersey issues.

Weight: 137.7 grains. Diameter: 28.8 mm.

- 1250** 1788 New Jersey copper. M 50-f. Rarity-3. VG-8, finer in some places. Head Left. Tan and brown surfaces microscopically granular. A natural obverse flan crack reaches from the rim at 1:00, crossing the middle A in CAESAREA, then crossing the horse's torso. Not so weak in the center as some examples of this variety; the horse's mane is shown in nearly full relief. On the reverse, a C-shaped punch mark can be seen at 8:00. Still, a wholly acceptable example of this popular design type.

Weight: 143.3 grains. Diameter: 28.6 mm.

- 1251** 1788 New Jersey copper. M 50-f. Rarity-3. G-4. Head to Left. Medium to deep tan. Well worn, but free of severe contact marks. A natural planchet lamination, V-shaped in appearance, has long since broken away from the obverse. An intriguing example of this popular issue.

Weight: 123.4 grains. Diameter: 28.6 mm.

- 1252** Threesome of 1787-dated New Jersey coppers: ☆ M 54-k. Rarity-3. F-12. Serpent Head variety ☆ M 55-m. Rarity-4. G-4. Second U in PLURIBUS over an S ☆ M 60-p. VG-8. PLURIBS variety. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1253** 1787 New Jersey copper. M 56-n. VF-25. Overstruck on a Connecticut copper, with some peripheral details of the host coin visible on both sides of the present piece. Medium tan surfaces, somewhat glossy and thoroughly attractive despite a few natural flan flaws.

Weight: 158.4 grains. Diameter: 29.3 mm.

- 1254** 1787 New Jersey copper. M 56-n. VF-20. Deep mahogany brown with lighter high points. No visible undertype. A few scattered marks are noted for accuracy.

Weight: 135.3 grains. Diameter: 28.6 mm.

Important Overstruck 1787 New Jersey Copper

Maris 56-n

On a Counterfeit 1775 George III Halfpenny



- 1255** 1787 New Jersey copper. M 56-n. VF-20. Overstruck on a counterfeit George III halfpenny, an interesting and desirable undertype in the New Jersey series. Dark brown with golden brown high points. Many obverse peripheral design elements of the host coin show plainly on the New Jersey obverse, while much of the reverse of the host coin is visible on the reverse of the New Jersey piece, including the date and portions of Britannia's figure. Two small notches were cut from the edge at the 9:00 position at some distant time in the past, but that shouldn't deter the New Jersey copper specialist from vying for this "curious item" in the series.

Weight: 106.0. Diameter: 28.2 mm.

Of all coppers in the New Jersey series, Maris 56-n is the most frequently seen with interesting undertypes still visible. Indeed, over a period of time a specialized collection could be formed of variations of this feature alone.

- 1256 1787 New Jersey copper. M 56-n. VG-10. Overstruck on a Connecticut copper. Pleasing medium chestnut brown surfaces exhibit a few faint, old marks, otherwise a delightfully appealing coin for the grade. Much of the host undertype is visible; the obverse of the New Jersey piece reads NOVA CAESAREA AUCTORI, while ET LIB is boldly emblazoned above the shield on the reverse.

Weight: 93.2 grains. Diameter: 28.5 mm.

From Stack's sale of October 1984, Lot 231.

- 1257 1787 New Jersey copper. M 58-n. Rarity-5. F-12. Medium chestnut surfaces with lighter high points. The obverse shows some old, hard patina around the design elements, while the reverse is essentially free of said impediment. A rare variety that is seldom encountered in any grade, and a wholly suitable example as well. A fairly distinctive design type, with the top of the horse's head and its ears placed distinctly between NOVA and CAESAREA.

Weight: 154.2 grains. Diameter: 29.2 mm.

- 1258 1787 New Jersey copper. M 60-p. Rarity-4. F-12 or marginally finer for sharpness, but with numerous tiny pits on both sides, these filled with green patination. Dark brown with lighter high points. The PLURIBUS variety.

Weight: 151.8 grains. Diameter: 30.3 mm.

Impressive 1787 New Jersey Copper

M 62-q, Choice EF



- 1259 1787 New Jersey copper. M 62-q. EF-45. A delightful example of this broad planchet type. Dark brown with some lighter highlights on the high points. A patch of old encrustation is seen at the S in CAESAREA, but its presence is mostly unobtrusive. Strong central design for the variety, with a decent amount of vertical and horizontal shield lines on the reverse; this area is often flat on this issue. Additionally, much of the horse's details are visible, including a goodly portion of its mane. An attractive coin full claims to a spot at the low end of the Condition Census for the variety.

Weight: 129.6 grains. Diameter: 31.0 mm.

- 1260 1787 New Jersey copper. M 62-q. VF-25. Graded chiefly by surfaces. A late, terminal state of the obverse, with the center of the die so collapsed upon itself that only the very tips of the horse's ears and the outline of its upper muzzle were impressed into the planchet. Additionally, a die crack extends from the rim at 5:00 vertically upward to the couler of the plow. Medium tan and quite smooth surfaces. A few tiny, insignificant marks are noted on the reverse for accuracy. A decidedly attractive example from what is probably the latest state of the obverse die.

Weight: 142.1 grains. Diameter: 31.0 mm.

- 1261 1787 New Jersey copper. M 62-q. F-12. Large Planchet. Deep golden brown with faint, uniform porosity and a few minor marks noted. Still a decent example for the grade.

Weight: 137.3 grains. Diameter: 30.4 mm.

- 1262 Pair of 1787-dated New Jersey coppers: ☆ M 62-q. VG-8. A few faint, old scratches on the reverse ☆ M 63-s. F-12. Medium tan with some deeper toning on the reverse. A few natural flan flaws present. Perhaps lightly cleaned long ago. (Total: 2 pieces)

- 1263 1787 New Jersey copper. M 63-q. VF-30 for sharpness. Medium chocolate brown with somewhat glossy and essentially undisturbed surfaces save for some faint, old graffiti that has all but disappeared from the center of the reverse shield. The graffiti, incidentally, consist of a well-known four-letter Anglo-Saxon word that is now a staple in Hollywood film scripts (such as in *Beverly Hills Cop*); we will say no more. All things considered, still a very pleasing example of the variety.

Weight: 150.9 grains. Diameter: 30.7 mm.

From M & G's Fifth Annual C-4 Convention, November 1999, Lot 305; Dr. Hall; Brand; Ryder; Boyd.

- 1264 1787 New Jersey copper. M 63-q. VF-20. Medium brown with strong eye appeal for the grade. A natural flan flaw is noted near the center of the reverse shield, otherwise the surfaces are essentially free of unsightly blemishes. A pleasing coin for the grade. Reverse die crack from the rim at 9:00 to PL in PLURIBUS.

Weight: 141.5 grains. Diameter: 30.6 mm.

- 1265 1787-dated New Jersey copper duo: ☆ M 63-r. G-4. Dark brown with lighter high points. Uniformly granular ☆ M 68-w. Rarity-5. G-4. Cleaned long ago, uniformly porous with shallow reverse scrapes. A rare variety. (Total: 2 pieces)

- 1266 1787 New Jersey copper. M 63-s. EF-40. Deep olive-brown with some faint, old reverse scratches in the field behind the horse's head. Faint uniform granularity on both sides. Still a decent coin for the grade, with plenty of strong central detail remaining.

Weight: 152.9 grains. Diameter: 29.7 mm.

- 1267 1787 New Jersey copper. M 64-t. EF-45. Deep chocolate brown with some lighter tan on the high points. Some central ticks show on both sides, a result of the minting process; there was not enough copper in the planchet to be drawn fully into the dies. The design elements are crisp and sharp in all other areas, and the coin is easily worthy of the assigned grade. Indeed, the present specimen fits firmly at the low end of the Condition Census for the variety. Faint reverse die crack from rim at 5:00 runs across the field to the right edge of the shield. Pleasing in all respects.

Weight: 143.9 grains. Diameter: 30.4 mm.

- 1268 Pair of 1787-dated New Jersey coppers: ☆ M 64-t. VF-20. The Straight Beam variety ☆ M 67-v. F-12, cleaned long ago. Reverse with areas of dark patination. (Total: 2 pieces)

- 1269 1788 New Jersey copper. M 66-v. Rarity-5+. VG-10. Deep brown with lighter brown high points. Some uniform porosity on both sides. Faint, natural flan fissures on the reverse. A scarce and desirable variety in all grades.

Weight: 129.5 grains. Diameter: 29.3 mm.

- 1270 1788 New Jersey copper. M 67-v. VF-25 for sharpness, perhaps lightly cleaned long ago, and with a portion of the obverse lightly struck due to a flan lamination at the right end of the plow. The final 8 in the date and the end of the plow beam are faintly impressed. Medium mahogany brown.

Weight: 154.3 grains. Diameter: 28.4 mm.

- 1271 1788 New Jersey copper. M 67-v. VF-20 for sharpness, but uniformly faint porosity on both sides. Obverse of flan laminated, with a pie-shaped wedge missing near the rim at 7:00; the 1 in the date is missing because of this flaw.

Weight: 160.1 grains. Diameter: 28.7 mm.

- 1272 1787 New Jersey copper. M 68-w. Rarity-5. VG-8. Sharper in some areas. Medium brown with areas of faint patination. Obverse swollen, a result of a sunken die; only a trace of the central horse can be seen, a result of striking and not wear. A rare variety.

Weight: 130.7 grains. Diameter: 27.3 mm.

VERMONT COPPERS

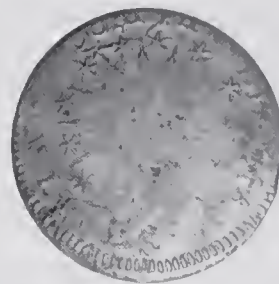
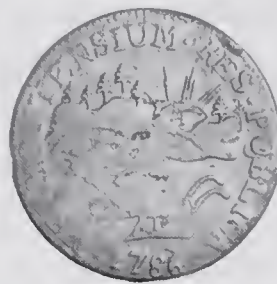
The Vermont coinage of 1785, 1788 is very distinctive, and in this regard we reiterate the sketch of the coinage as given in our catalogue of the Walter H. Childs Collection, 1999:

The "landscape" style cents depict the early morning sun peeping over a forested rocky ridge, a scene no doubt taken from Vermont nature itself, for even today it would not be too difficult to wander a field with a camera and photograph something similar. Rueben Harmon, Jr., under his franchise, endeavored to produce coins that were representative of the Green Mountain state, and the landscape motif was logical. The reverse, with a glory of rays, was copied from other coinage, perhaps inspired by the 1783 Nova Constellatio copper. The surrounding inscription on the reverse, STELLA QUARTA DECIMA, or "The Fourteenth Star," refers to Vermont's ambitions to become a state of the Union, a reality not attained until 1791, by which time coinage had ceased. During Rueben Harmon's time, Vermont was a separate entity and, in fact, some discussion was given to joining the British interests in *Canada* to the North!

So far as is known, dies for the 1785-1786 "landscape" coinage were made at or near Pawlet, and copper was melted, rolled into strips, and made into planchets there. Conditions were rustic at best, copper supplies seem to have been uncertain, and the resulting planchets were of varying quality, most often with rifts or striations. Thus, among the various Vermont coppers of this style known in cabinets today, just about every coin has one or more idiosyncrasies—such as planchet rifts, off-center striking, bulged or cracked dies, weak areas of impression, planchet porosity, or something else. It is precisely such characteristics that give a charm to the coinage of Vermont and which have attracted so many students to this series.

Later coinages of 1787-1788 were largely accomplished at a new facility, Machin's Mills, on the shore of Orange Pond near Newburgh, New York, a day's drive west of Pawlet, Vermont. Captain Machin and his partners, including Rueben Harmon, formed a company for coining coppers, and set about producing pieces they considered to be advantageous. Included in the output were coins bearing representations of Vermont (but of the portrait styles, no longer the "landscape" motif), pieces with inscriptions pertaining to New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut, counterfeit British halfpence, and perhaps other items as well. No catalogue was ever kept, and today the attribution of pieces to Machin's Mills is based upon similarity of certain dies and punches, planchet weights, and the overall appearance of specimens. The story of Machin's Mills is fascinating in its own right, and was first delineated in detail by Sylvester S. Crosby in 1875 in *The Early Coins of America*.

While the native or indigenous Vermont pieces struck at Pawlet under the aegis of Rueben Harmon, Jr., are of fairly heavy planchets (although crudely fabricated), those made at Machin's Mills tend to be lightweight and more poorly struck and from cruder dies in many instances, although planchets tended to be smoother. Later designs were varied and mainly were based around an image of King George III (not a particularly logical choice for Vermont coins!) but with the inscription VERMON AUCTORI ("by the authority of Vermont"). On several occasions, dies were confused at Machin's Mills, producing illogical results, including the well known and not particularly rare BRITANNIA offered subsequently in the present sale. Today, specialists recognize 39 distinctly different die varieties and combinations, among which are over 10 *major* date and design differences, making the series among the most distinctive in early numismatics.



- 1273 1786 Vermont copper. Ryder-6, Bressett-4D. Landscape. VF-20. VERMONTENSIVM. Somewhat glossy olive-brown surfaces display a few natural flan flaws, but extraneous circulation marks are at a minimum. The "Floating Tree" variety, with the fourth tree from the viewer's left floating in midair. Fairly sharp on the obverse, somewhat weakened on the reverse with CI in DECIMA obscured as is some of the central all-seeing eye motif. A tiny obverse rim clip is noted at 9:00. A decidedly pleasing coin for the grade.

Weight: 122.1 grains. Diameter: 27.0 mm.



- 1274 1786 Vermont copper. R-6, B-4D. Landscape. Net VF-20, sharpness of EF-40 or finer in places, but flan somewhat rough and porous in places. VERMONTENSIVM. Probably lost and interred in the ground soon after striking, as attested to by its overall appearance. A faint sheen of black patina graces both sides. A natural flan flaw runs through the plow handles on the obverse. Somewhat off center on the reverse, with the tops of QUARTO off the flan. All things considered, a perfectly acceptable example of the variety, one that offers finer details than frequently seen.

Weight: 128.1 grains. Diameter: 27.6 mm.



- 1275 1786 Vermont copper. R-7, B-5E. Landscape. EF-40. VERMONTENSIVM. Medium brown with a trace of mahogany. Faintly porous in places, but mainly sharp in the design motifs. Some weakness is noted, however, at VER on the obverse and at QUAR on the reverse. Still a wholly acceptable example of this popular variety.

Weight: 111.5 grains. Diameter: 27.2 mm.

- 1276 1786 Vermont copper. R-6, B-6E. Landscape. Rarity-4-. VG-8, sharpness finer in places. VERMONTENSIVM. Medium brown with some deeper toning in the recessed areas. Striking weakness on the obverse has resulted in a very weak plow and a virtually nonexistent date; weakness on the reverse has weakened DECI as well as several of the rays and stars in that area. The mountain and landscape scene is quite sharp for the assigned grade, as is much of the reverse. A pleasing example of a popular and scarce variety.

Weight: 117.2 grains. Diameter: 26.9 mm.



- 1277** 1786 Vermont copper. R-10, B-8G. Mailed Bust Left. Rarity-4. VF-25. Medium red-brown surfaces with some golden brown on the high points. Faint, microscopic porosity and a few tiny patches of green verdigris are present, but the overall appeal is somewhat above average for the issue. Strong design elements are present, with much of the hair and armor details present. On the reverse, some of the internal elements of Liberty's garments are visible. Free of all but a few stray marks, and, again, above-average for the variety.

Weight: 132.4 grains. Diameter: 26.9 mm.

From James H. Goudge; formerly in the Ted Craig Collection.

- 1278** 1787 Vermont copper. R-12, B-11K. Mailed Bust Right. VF-20. Faint, old scratches present on attractive mahogany surfaces. Lighter golden brown highlights on the high points. Slightly off center on the obverse, with the tops of VERMON at the rim. On the reverse just the tops of the date numerals are present. Usual state, reverse die cud above Liberty's head.

- 1279** 1787 Vermont copper. R-13, B-17V. Mailed Bust Right. AU-50/F-12. BRITANNIA variety. Glossy deep tan surfaces, at least on the obverse, where the casual viewer would be certain to remark, "My, what a beautiful Vermont copper!" As is frequently the story with the BRITANNIA variety, the reverse is an altogether different story. The surfaces are granular and rough, with only some central details plain. Back to the obverse. Decidedly choice for the die combination, with just a hint of roughness at the edge above MON. Additionally, an obverse edge clip is noted at 7:00. From a middle state of the die, with faint die crack present across the effigy's portrait, and the cud at the tip of its armor just beginning. Would that both sides of this BRITANNIA Vermont copper looked like the obverse!

Weight: 123.9 grains. Diameter: 28.0 mm.

- 1280** 1787 Vermont copper. R-13, B-17V. Mailed Bust Right. VF-20/VG-8. BRITANNIA. Deep chestnut brown with lighter high points. Among the most popular and readily available issues in the Vermont copper series. As typically found, the obverse is sharp and appealing, while the reverse gives the appearance of having been in circulation for decades. A natural flan split begins at the obverse rim at 10:00 and winds its way across the O in VERMON, and from there to the hair at the back of the effigy's head. The same split crosses the reverse from the 9:00 position to Liberty's knee. Strong hair and wreath detail, plus a decent amount of armor also shows. The reverse is somewhat softened, with the peripheral legends and date all but nonexistent, typical for the issue. Fairly early obverse die state, crack that normally vertically bisects the effigy just beginning to show, as is the cud at the breast plate. Choice for the issue.

Weight: 109.2 grains. Diameter: 28.5 mm.

- 1281** 1787 Vermont copper. R-13, B-17V. Mailed Bust Right. F-15. VG-8. BRITANNIA variety. Typical for this issue, somewhat porous brown surfaces with a considerably finer obverse than reverse. Obverse edge clip at 2:00. Middle obverse die state, crack across effigy visible as is the cud at the tip of the effigy's armor. Central reverse details plain, peripheral details weak, as virtually always seen in this die combination. A spot of patina is noted near the shield on the reverse.

- 1282** 1788 Vermont copper. R-16, B-15S. Mailed Bust Right. F-15. Medium tan surfaces. Uniform faint porosity, with some darkening at the center of the reverse. Still, all details are plain, enough to warrant the assigned grade.

Weight: 99.1 grains. Diameter: 27.4 mm.

- 1283** 1788 Vermont copper. R-16, B-15S. Mailed Bust Right. F-12. Medium olive-brown with some lighter high points. Some faint porosity on both sides, as typically seen for this variety. Nicely centered with details plain and bold enough to warrant the assigned grade.

Weight: 99.5 grains. Diameter: 28.3 mm.

Outstanding 1788 Vermont Copper

R-20, B-10L

Probable Condition Census



- 1284** 1788 Vermont copper. R-20, B-10L. Mailed Bust Right. Rarity-3. EF-40. Somewhat glossy olive-brown surfaces with lighter rose highlights on the high points. An impressive example of the variety, one that is nicely preserved and essentially devoid of unsightly marks. Some old, faint scratches are noted, but the word "insignificant" best sums up those marks. The variety by itself is not a great rarity in the Vermont copper series, but when found in such extraordinary quality, rarity becomes the byword. This variety is plentiful at the Fine and VF level, but when an EF example enters the numismatic marketplace, Vermont copper specialists take note. The present coin is easily the physical and aesthetic equal to the Norweb specimen (our sale of October 1987, Lot 1286), which was cited by author Tony Carlotto in his fine reference on Vermont coppers as being a particularly fine example of the variety. If we were to choose one word to sum up the appearance of the present coin, it would simply be "Nice!"

Weight: 128.8 grains. Diameter: 27.5 mm.

- 1285** 1788 Vermont copper. R-20, B-10L. Mailed Bust Right. Rarity-3. F-15, marginally finer in places but lightly microgranular. Still a pleasing medium brown specimen with golden brown highlights. Few marks of any consequence are noted, the most auspicious of these being four tiny reeds on the edge above the N in VERMON. Decidedly choice for the grade, and worthy of in-person inspection.

Weight: 119.6 grains. Diameter: 27.5 mm.



- 1286 1788 Vermont copper. R-27, B-10L. Mailed Bust Right. EF-45, sharper in most areas but lightly cleaned long ago. Since retined to iridescent olive, although much "red" can be seen in the recessed areas on the reverse. A sharp and attractive example, although struck on a typical planchet for the issue, that being somewhat grainy. All that said, the surfaces are still devoid of extraneous marks, and this specimen deserves a vote of confidence for that reason. Decidedly choice, as a brief examination will reveal.

Weight: 110.9 grains. Diameter: 27.3 mm.
From Richard Picker.

- 1287 "1781" North American token. B-1144. VF-20. Deep tan with appealing brown highlights. A hint of surface roughness is seen, but the overall appeal is strong for the assigned grade.

Weight: 115.9 grains. Diameter: 28.5 mm.

- 1288 1787 Auctori Plebis copper. Breen-1147. VF-20. Chocolate brown surfaces are essentially problem free save for a series of tiny rim bruises on both sides. From the late state of the dies, with die crack arcing from the top of the globe across Liberty's head, then parallel to her back, terminating near her seat. Date numerals nearly off flan, just the tops being visible.

Weight: 101.2 grains. Diameter: 26.9 mm.

Mint State "1789" Mott Token

Thick Planchet, Plain Edge



- 1289 "1789" Mott token. Breen-1020. Crosby IX,17. Thick planchet, plain edge. MS-62 (PCGS). Somewhat glossy deep chocolate brown surfaces with slightly lighter high points. Struck from the rusted state of the dies, with evidence plain at the peripheries on both sides. From a later state of the obverse die, with the cud at the upper right (viewer's left) corner of the regulator (clock) now expanded to the ampersand between GOLD and SILVER. Still a decidedly choice example of this backdated issue.

Weight: 167.8 grains.



- 1290 "1789" Mott token. B-1020, C IX, 17. Thick Planchet. Plain edge. EF-45. Rich chocolate brown. A hint of surface granularity is seen, but the overall appeal of the piece is easily equivalent to the assigned grade. Struck slightly off center, affecting the legend below

the regulator (clock). Middle die state, with die cud at viewer's upper left corner of the regulator somewhat resembling a mouse in this die state, which brings to mind the old rhyme "Hickory, dickory, dock." A choice example of a popular issue.

Weight: 166.9 grains. Diameter: 27.2 mm.

- 1291 Pair of popular token issues: ☆ (1792) Kentucky token. B-1155, plain edge. AU-50. Choice deep tan surfaces. From a fairly early state of the obverse, with just a faint vestige present of the die crack that develops at the scroll ☆ 1794 Franklin Press token. B-1165, plain edge. VF-20. Medium brown. Die cud at center of press. (Total: 2 pieces)

- 1292 (1792) Kentucky token. B-1154-55 for type, plain edge. EF-45 (PCGS). Olive-brown with medium tan highlights. An attractive coin for the grade.

- 1293 1794 Franklin Press token. Breen-1165, D&H-307a Middlesex. AU-58 (PCGS). Deep chestnut brown with some lighter red in the recessed areas. Some deeper toning is noted on the reverse. From a middle state of the obverse, with a cud now filling the entire table of the printing press. A pleasing example of this popular adoptee of specialists in coinage relating to early America. The Franklin press, located in London, was used by Benjamin Franklin and later was appreciated for the historical connection—being depicted on a conder token struck for the amusement and interest of British numismatist in the late 18th-century. Later, when coin collecting became popular in the United States, this variety was among a handful of such tokens with American motifs that were sought by enthusiasts on this side of the Atlantic.

- 1294 1794 Talbot, Allum & Lee cent. Breen-1031. New York, plain edge. EF-40. Deep chocolate brown with mahogany high points. A great rarity within the Talbot, Allum & Lee varieties. The edge is completely natural and untouched, without traces of lettering of any kind. Lightly cleaned long ago, but the natural toning since acquired makes that circumstance easily forgivable. The *Guide Book* makes a notation regarding this variety: "Rare plain edge specimens of both dates (1794 and 1795) exist."

Weight: 148.9 grains. Diameter: 29.0 mm.

- 1295 1794 Talbot, Allum & Lee cent. B-1032, Fuld-3. Small Ampersands. VF-30 (PCGS). Deep brown with a trace of olive. A fairly rare issue, certainly considerably more so than its 1795 counterpart. Here is a pleasing specimen of a rare sub-variety, with the N of NEW on the reverse nearly under the second T of TALBOT; the usually seen variety has that N in NEW nearly under the A of ALLUM. A desirable issue.



- 1296 1795 Talbot, Allum & Lee cent. Breen-1035-36 for type. Proof-64 BN (PCGS). Reflective deep tan surfaces and satiny devices. Nicely struck in all places, a definite plus where this issue is concerned; often Liberty's head is flat and soft. An outstanding example for the grade, a coin possessed of extraordinary eye appeal.



- 1297 1795 Talbot, Allum & Lee cent. B-1035. Lettered edge. MS-63 RB. A satiny medium tan specimen with strong lustre and plenty of sparkling mint red. Sharply struck in all places, a definite plus with this particular issue. Definitely choice.

Weight: 162.0 grains. Diameter: 28.7 mm.



- 1298 1795 Talbot, Allum & Lee cent. B-1035. Lettered edge. MS-60. Medium chestnut brown and varied shades of tan display some gloss and lustre. Struck from clashed dies.

Weight: 157.9 grains. Diameter: 28.7 mm.

- 1299 1795 Talbot, Allum & Lee cent. B-1035-36 for type. Lettered edge. AU-55 (PCGS). Medium tan with some deeper highlights in the recessed areas. Generous amounts of lustre remain among the peripheral legends. Struck from lightly clashed dies.

Desirable 1820 North West Company Token



- 1300 1820 North West Company token. B-1083. Brass. VG-8/G-4. Holed for suspension, as virtually always seen. Olive-gold surfaces with areas of black patina on the obverse. The reverse is considerably rougher than the obverse, and patina, while not heavier, is more prevalent. The present specimen has the appearance of a token that has spent some time in the ground, as is the case with practically every North West Company token known. A popular *Guide Book* listing. This particular token has a very rich numismatic history, and in lieu of delineating it here and occupying *several pages* we would be pleased to furnish same to the successful bidder, upon request.

Weight: 129.3 grains. Diameter: 28.8 mm.

- 1301 1783 Washington & Independence. Large Military Bust. B-1203. EF-45. Deep mahogany with some chestnut highlights. An attractive coin for the grade, devoid of all but a few minor marks.

Weight: 111.4 grains. Diameter: 28.0 mm.

- 1302 1783 Washington & Independence. Large Military Bust. Breen-1203, Baker-4. EF-45 for sharpness, but with some qualifications. Struck on a somewhat uneven flan, with an edge split and fold at 3:00 relative to the obverse, an unusual occurrence for this issue. The N in WASHINGTON is weak on the obverse, as a result of the striking process. An intriguing example of this popular issue.

Weight: 108.2 grains. Diameter: 28.0 mm.

- 1303 Quartette of popular Washington pieces: ☆ 1783 Unity States cent. B-1188. VF-20 ☆ 1783 Washington & Independence. Large Military Bust. B-1189. VF-20 ☆ Undated Double Headed cent. B-1204. VF-20 ☆ Circa 1959 Collis restrike of the Washington Born Virginia. Uniface. B-1245. MS-63 RD. A nice selection overall. (Total: 4 pieces)

- 1304 1783 Washington & Independence. Draped Bust, No Button, Engrailed edge. Breen-1193. Restrike. Proof-64 BN (PCGS). A thoroughly delightful example of this popular restrike issue, with deep tan surfaces that exhibit lovely mahogany toning in the recessed areas. Bright and reflective, and certain to please.

- 1305 1783 Washington & Independence. Unity States cent. Breen-1188. AU-50. Straight edge planchet clip at 3:00 relative to the obverse. Medium tan with somewhat glossy surfaces. Typical planchet striations, a result of the minting process, seen on both sides. Still a sharp and attractive coin overall.

Weight: 112.1 grains. Diameter: 28.2 mm.

- 1306 1783 Washington & Independence. Unity States cent. B-1188. VF-30. Deep tan with some deeper toning in the recessed areas. A pleasing coin for the grade.

- 1307 1783 Washington and Independence Unity States cent. B-1188. F-15. Attractive tan surfaces with some light olive blending in recessed areas. Typical faint reverse striations, a result of the minting process. An attractive coin for the grade.

Weight: 114.5 grains. Diameter: 28.0 mm.

- 1308 1791 Washington President. Small Eagle cent. Breen-1217, D&H-1050 Middlesex. Delightful deep tan surfaces with some chocolate brown. A lustrous example of a popular issue, free of extraneous marks save for some tiny, barely noticeable edge bruises. A hint of striking weakness at the obverse center, as typically seen. An aesthetic treat.

Weight: 190.4 grains. Diameter: 30.4 mm.



- 1309 1799 Washington Grate token. Small Buttons. Reeded edge. Breen-1271. AU-55 (PCGS). Chocolate brown with some lighter high points. A pleasing example for the grade with just a few tiny marks present. A touch of striking weakness is noted on the reverse at the first ON of LONDON.

- 1310 1795 Washington Grate token. Large Buttons. B-1271. AU-55 (PCGS). Chocolate brown surfaces display splashes of iridescent mahogany and chestnut. A nicely struck example of a popular British conder token that has since been adopted into the "colonial" series by American collectors. A funny thing about Americans: if it has to do with George Washington, we collect it!

- 1311 1795 Washington Grate token. Large Buttons. B-1271. EF-45 (PCGS). Attractive chocolate brown surfaces. A hint of weakness is seen at Washington's shoulder, not an unusual circumstance for this issue.

Weight: 138.9 grains. Diameter: 28.1 mm.



- 1312 Undated Washington Success token. Breen-1286. Large Planchet, plain edge. AU-50 (PCGS). Bright and brassy olive-gold with a touch of deeper toning on both sides. Typical state of the obverse for this variety, with a crack that runs from the rim at 11:00, across Washington's portrait, emanating from the tip of his nose and then through the NG of WASHINGTON, thence to the rim at 4:00. Some central striking weakness on reverse, otherwise sharp and crisp in all areas. A pleasing coin for the grade.

1789 Washington Inaugural Button



- 1313 (1789) George Washington Inaugural button. Cobb-21. Rarity-7. VG-8, holed: Deep chocolate brown with a touch of copper on the high points. Uniface, obverse with UNITY PROSPERITY AND INDEPENDENCE around an inner circle with a 13-pointed sun, a six-pointed star at the end of each sun ray, reverse blank. Holed between UNITY and PROSPERITY, probably for suspension; apparently a button shank has been removed from the reverse. A prized rarity, with probably fewer than a half dozen specimens known. Choice for the assigned grade; perhaps our judgment of the piece is conservative.
- 1314 Undated (circa 1789) Washington Inaugural Button. Albert-12C. Heraldic Eagle, Star above Obverse, Plain reverse. VF-20 or so overall. Button shank removed from reverse. Cleaned some time ago to a bright, unnatural brilliance, now retoning. Faint porosity shows on both sides, and the button itself is slightly bent. Still a highly collectible and acceptable example of this popular issue. Manufactured for the occasion of Washington's inauguration as our country's first president in 1789. Apparently these were made not only for use on Washington's inaugural apparel, but also for sale to the general public as souvenirs of the day. Certainly among the most popular of all Washington-related items.

Weight: 101.2 grains. Diameter: 34.4 mm.

- 1315 1787 Fugio cent. KN-6 W.1. Pointed Rays, STATES UNITED. Rarity-4. F-12 (PCI). Medium brown with lighter tan high points. Microscopic granularity seen on both sides, but still a decent coin for the grade. A fairly scarce variety.



- 1316 1787 Fugio cent. KN-13R. Pointed Rays, STATES UNITED. Rarity-6. EF-40. An attractive medium tan specimen with some deeper toning in the recessed areas. Some minor flan flaws, as

struck, are noted for accuracy. A very late die state of this scarce variety, exhibiting two small die breaks on the reverse that are not noted in the Kessler reference. A nicely centered coin, with a touch of weakness at the centers as always seen for this rare and elusive variety. A coin that probably sits very high in the Condition Census for the variety.

Attractive 1787 Fugio Cent Eight-pointed Stars



- 1317 1787 Fugio cent. KN-15Y. Pointed Rays, STATES UNITED. AU-50 (PCGS). Eight-pointed stars on reverse label. Medium brown with some deeper brown toning. Sharply struck in most places, but with some weakness at FU on the obverse and a corresponding spot at the periphery of the reverse rings. Probable condition census for the variety, certainly among the finest we have handled in recent memory. Both eight-pointed stars on reverse are plainly visible, a plus where this variety is concerned. A grand opportunity for the Fugio cent specialist.



- 1318 1787 Fugio cent. KN 17-S.1. VF-20. Sharpness finer in places. Medium tan with slightly darker high points. Some minor flan fissures are noted on both sides, but the overall quality is substantial for the grade.

Weight: 130.5 grains. Diameter: 28.5 mm.

MISCELLANEOUS COLONIALS

- 1319 Trio of popular issues: ☆ 1785 Nova Constellatio. B-1111, C-3B. Script US, Pointed Rays. F-15 ☆ 1787 Connecticut copper. M 13-D. Mailed Bust Left. VF-25 ☆ 1787 Vermont copper. R-13, B-17V. Mailed Bust Right. F-12. BRITANNIA. All told, a pleasing trio. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 1320 Threesome of popular "colonial" issues: ☆ 1787 New Jersey copper. M-54k. VF-25, corrosion present ☆ 1787 Vermont copper. R-13, B-17V. VF-20. BRITANNIA ☆ 1787 Fugio cent. KN-12U. VF-20, light porosity. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 1321 1794 John Howard/Talbot, Allum & Lee muling. B-1049, D&H-56, Hampshire. EF-45, lightly struck at the centers. A glossy deep tan specimen of a conder token that has been adopted by U.S. collectors owing to its association with the Talbot, Allum & Lee cents of 1794-95. The obverse features a bust of Howard to the left, while the reverse features the familiar standing figure of Liberty as commerce as seen on the Talbot, Allum & Lee cents. Edge reeds: PAYABLE IN LONDON.

Weight: 114.8 grains. Diameter: 28.9 mm.

John Howard, a Fellow of the Royal Society was a noted philanthropist and battler for the rights of prisoners and for general prison reform.

- 1322 1795 Irish halfpenny/Liberty & Security muling. B-1266, D&H-9, Dublin, Ireland. EF-40, lightly struck at the centers, typical for the issue. Another popular conder token issue that has been taken under the wing of U.S. colonial specialists owing to its association with the Liberty & Security Washington pieces of 1795. Dated on both sides; IRISH HALFPENNY 1795 surrounds a standing figure of Commerce, leaning on an anchor. The reverse features the LIBERTY & SECURITY 1795 legend around eagle and shield, as found on the Washington pieces. Edge reads: PAYABLE AT LONDON LIVERPOOL OR BRISTOL.

Weight: 135.4 grains. Diameter: 29.3 mm.

- 1326 1809 B-6, C-6. Normal Date. AU-55. A splendid chocolate brown specimen with lighter golden tan highlights. Glossy and problem-free save for a few tiny marks; how often can that be said for an 1809 half cent?

- 1327 Quartette of lovely half cents, all attributed as B-1, C-1 varieties: 1834 AU-58 ☆ 1849 Large Date (2). AU-58; AU-55 ☆ 1855 AU-58. A truly choice group of "little half sisters." (Total: 4 pieces)

- 1328 1857 B-1, C-1. MS-63 RB (PCGS). The obverse presents a pleasing mix of mint red and medium brown, while the reverse is nearly full red, with just a touch of tan on the high points. An attractive coin for the grade.

HALF CENTS

Popular 1793 Half Cent



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1323 1793 Breen-3, Cohen-3. Rarity-3. Flowing Hair. Net VF-20; sharpness of VF-35, but tooled in places, once whizzed, now recolored. Still in all, a most acceptable example of this popular one-year-only issue, with Flowing Hair of Liberty to left. A few faint marks are noted, and despite the aforementioned problems, this present coin is certainly a wholly acceptable "filler."

From our sale of the Rogers M. Fred, Jr. and Peter A. Ward, M.D. Collections, November 1995, Lot 3066.

Attractive 1794 Half Cent



- 1324 1794 B-6b, C-4a. Rarity-3. VF-25 (PCGS). Pleasing medium tan with a nuance of chestnut brown. A few faint marks are present; but the coin still displays a grand amount of dignity for the grade.

- 1325 1797 B-3c, C-3a. Rarity-4. Low Head. Plain edge. VG-8. Medium golden tan with some deeper highlights present. Faintly porous and probably lightly cleaned long ago, but still quite attractive overall. A nice coin for just about any cabinet.

Early die state with crack at chin just beginning.

LARGE CENTS

Popular 1793 Chain AMERICA Cent

Sheldon-3, The "Leaning R" Variety



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1329 1793 Sheldon-3. Rarity-3. Chain AMERICA. VF-20 (PCGS). The "Leaning R" variety. Medium olive-brown with slightly lighter brown high points. Careful scrutiny with a low power glass reveals faintly porous surfaces and a scattering of faint, old scratches. The R in LIBERTY in this highly recognizable variety is noticeably higher than the other letters in LIBERTY, and leans dramatically to the right. Among the first issues from the Philadelphia Mint, and a short-lived design type that, sooner or later, finds its way into every serious large cent collection.

Pleasing 1793 Chain Cent



- 1330 1793 S-4. Rarity-3+. Periods. F-12 (PCGS). Mottled tan and dark brown with very faint porosity. A pleasing example of the first large cent design, struck early in 1793. Chain cents of all five varieties were delivered from the coiner during the first two weeks of March 1793. This was the final variety minted and delivered. The periods feature on the obverse, after the date and LIBERTY, are very hard to see due to the light porosity. Other obverse design features provide unquestionable attribution.

Attractive 1793 Wreath Cent

Sheldon-9, Vine and Bars Edge



- 1331 1793 S-9. Wreath. Vine and Bars. VF-25 BN (NGC). Medium tan surfaces with attractive blends of brown on both sides. Aside from a hint of faint porosity that only shows under low magnification, the attractive surfaces are essentially mark free. A great combination of collectible grade and attractive physical appearance.
- 1332 1794 S-18b. Rarity-4. Head of 1793. Net F-2; sharpness of AG-3, surfaces lightly granular, cleaned long ago. Olive-brown with lighter golden brown high points.
- 1333 Quintette of large cents: ☆ 1794 S-22. Net VG-8; sharpness of F-12, rough ☆ 1811 S-287. F-12 ☆ 1812 S-289. F-12 ☆ 1817 N-11. VF-30 ☆ 1824 N-3. VF-30. Each with dark attractive surfaces. (Total: 5 pieces)



- 1334 1794 S-31. VF-35 (ANACS). Medium golden tan surfaces show faint, uniform porosity on both sides. Still a pleasing coin, certainly worth of in-person inspection.
- 1335 Pair of large cent errors: ☆ 1795 S-78. Struck 10% off center towards 8:00. Net VG-8; sharpness of F-12, porous ☆ Undated (1831 N-14. Rarity-1+) 35% off center towards 3:00. F-15. Smooth medium brown surfaces. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 1336 1796 S-102. Reverse of 1794. G-4 (NGC). Medium olive-brown. Lightly porous and well-worn, yet surprisingly free of unsightly marks. A scarce variety.

- 1337 1797 S-133. Rarity-5. Stemless. Net VG-8; sharpness of VF-30, pitted. Medium chocolate brown with faint, uniform porosity noted. The obverse fields are peppered with areas of pitting, otherwise the coin is mark-free. All things considered, a most suitable filler of this elusive issue.

- 1338 1797 S-162. Rarity-4. Stemless. Net VG-8; sharpness of VF-30, pitted. Olive-brown with salmon pink high points, undoubtedly caused by an old cleaning. Still a fairly sharp and reasonably attractive example of this moderately scarce variety.



- 1339 1798 S-157. 1st Hairstyle. VF-25 BN (NGC). Medium olive-brown with some lighter areas. Lightly struck at LI on the obverse, and correspondingly at UN on the reverse. Some faint marks are noted, but the overall appeal is quite strong.

Broadly Double Struck 1798 Cent

Sheldon-167



- 1340 1798 S-167. 2nd Hair Style. G-7. Medium olive-tan on the obverse, chestnut brown on the reverse. Faint porosity in places, but no significant marks of any sort are present; a few faint hairlines and tiny dings, but nothing else. An incredible coin, with two full dates present on the obverse. The second impression is aligned about 45° counterclockwise from the original impression, and is mostly off the planchet. The top of Liberty's head on the second impression and LIBERTY above are not present, but from that point down all is plain. Only the TY of the first strike is present, along with Liberty's profile, breast, and date. On the reverse, ONE CENT is plain at the center of the wreath of the second strike, while much of the wreath details and UNITED STATES OF has been obliterated both by strike and the ravages of time and circulation. An intriguing and attractive example of a decidedly rare and desirable large cent mint error.
- 1341 1807 S-276. Large Fraction. Net VF-30 (ANACS); sharpness of AU-50, corroded. Very nearly Mint State for sharpness with heavy corrosion. The reverse is rotated, typical of most survivors from this die combination.
- 1342 Undated (1817) reverse brockage. Reverse D, Newcomb 4 or 5. F-12. An attractive example of this popular large cent mint error variety. Medium brown without serious contact marks of any note.

This brockage was caused when a freshly struck large cent stuck to the obverse die, thus causing the reverse of the struck coin to act as a die for one or more impressions, with a reversed reverse impression the result. Consequently, this also resulted in a coin with two "tails" sides being struck every time the dies came together with the large cent still stuck to the obverse die.



- 1343 1828 N-6. MS-65 BN (PCGS). Subdued tan lustre on the obverse with traces of orange mint lustre on the reverse, along with faint splashes of bluish brown. A pleasing example that is one of only a few Mint State survivors extant. Quite possibly among the top 10 known for this variety. A late die state.

Numerous tiny rust pits are scattered about the obverse along with a die crack from the date through the lower two stars at right.



- 1344 1840 N-8. Large Date. MS-65 RB (NGC). Subdued lustre on satiny, mattelike iridescent tan surfaces. Nicely struck.

SMALL CENTS

Important 1856 Flying Eagle 1¢



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1345 1856 Flying Eagle. Proof-62. A sharp example of the most famous of all U.S. small cent issues. Traces of iridescent rose, violet, gold, and sea green grace the reflective surfaces. Perhaps lightly cleaned (or otherwise enhanced) long ago, with the present toning appearing quite natural. A reverse planchet flaw is noted at the bottom of the wreath, apparently as struck and forgivable as such.

The detailed history of this issue is given in Dave Bowers' book, *A Buyer's and Enthusiast's Guide to Flying Eagle and Indian Cents*. In brief, in 1857 and early 1858, hundreds of these pieces were struck with frosty "circulation strike" surfaces for distribution to congressmen, newspaper editors, and others of influence, to acquaint them with a new design and format. About the same time, notice of the discontinuation of the old copper "large" cent made interesting reading in the popular press, and initiated a flurry of activity in collecting such pieces. Within the next several years, numismatics became firmly established as a dynamic hobby—attracting well over a thousand people, and perhaps several thousand.

Accordingly, a great demand arose for 1856 Flying Eagle cents, and to fulfill this, James Ross Snowden authorized the production of restrikes. As at the time the Proof finish was considered to be better than circulation strike or Uncirculated finish (today, both finishes are considered to be different, and one is not considered to be greater than or less than the other in desirability), the restrikes were all in Proof. From about 1858 or spring 1859, continuing for the next few years, probably a couple thousand or more restrikes were produced. Today,

these constitute the vast majority of high-grade pieces in existence. Circulation strikes, when encountered, are apt to be worn, these being coins struck for informational purposes in 1856 and early 1857, distributed to newspapers and others, as noted, and then eventually spent once the novelty had passed.

Today, there are probably somewhere between 1,000 and 1,500 1856 Flying Eagle cents in existence, mostly Proofs or impaired Proofs. The demand for them continues unabated, and whenever we offer a lovely specimen in one of our auctions, such as right now, there is always a tremendous amount of interest.

Another Rare 1856 Flying Eagle Cent



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1346 1856 Flying Eagle. Net VF-25; sharpness of VF-35, lightly cleaned. Medium golden surfaces are free of all but some trivial marks. Another fully pleasing and highly collectible example of this desirable small cent issue.

- 1347 Nearly complete date set of small cents 1857 through 1909-S Indian. Lacking the 1856 Flying Eagle cent and the 1863 Indian cent. All have been cleaned at one time and in-person inspection is recommended. Housed in a Whitman album. (Total: 57 pieces)

- 1348 1858 Small Letters. MS-63 (PCGS). Lustrous medium gold with some traces of violet on the reverse.

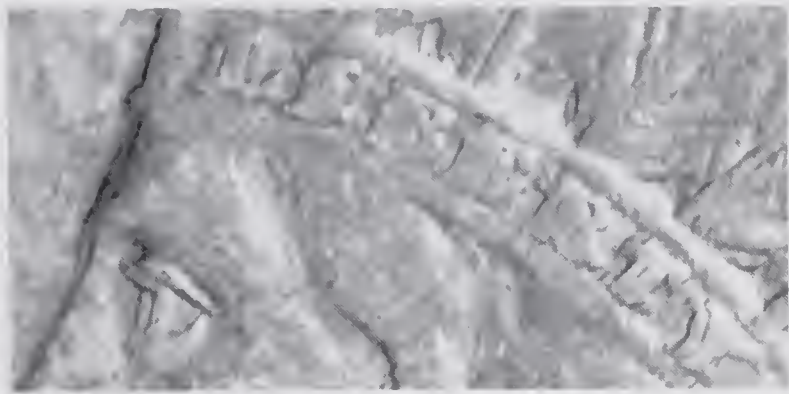
- 1349 1859 MS-63 (PCGS). Lustrous honey gold. An attractive coin for the grade.

- 1350 1860 Rounded Bust. MS-65 (PCGS). Highly lustrous and attractive with light tan surfaces. Some weakness is noted at top of the feathers on the obverse. The Rounded Bust variety is by far the more available than its counterpart, the Pointed Bust. Increasingly, specialists are aspiring to own one of each.

- 1351 1864 Bronze. MS-65 RD (PCGS). A satiny gem replete with intense cartwheel lustre on frosty red surfaces. Sharply struck in all places.

Struck from an obverse die that has cracked in several places. One faint crack connects the date numerals, and moving clockwise around the periphery, we find a second die crack from the top of A in STATES, across the TE diagonally, then to the bottom of the S, and from there across the tips of the first two feathers in the headdress. Another crack extends from the rim, falling diagonally as it goes across OF.

- 1352 Trio of certified cents: ☆ 1865 Fancy 5. MS-64 BN (HALL-MARK). Lustrous with a couple of minute spots noted on both surfaces ☆ 1869 69 MS-63 BN (ANACS). Rich brown surfaces ☆ 1873 Open 3, Strike Doubled. MS-63 RB (PCGS). Lustrous with a few spots noted. (Total: 3 pieces)



- 1353 1873 Snow-1. Doubled Die Obverse. Type I. EF-40.** Satiny, medium tan surfaces devoid of all but a few faint marks. An area of deeper toning is noted at TE in UNITED. Boldly doubled LIBERTY, eye details, lips, and at the ear as well (another variation of this Doubled Die obverse variety is known, with considerably lessened doubling at LIBERTY). A rare and exciting variety that always instills a touch of bidding fever in Indian cent specialists.

- 1354 1875 MS-65 BN (NGC).** Sharply struck and very pleasing. Light brown surfaces with some tinges of gold. A coin that will delight and satisfy anyone seeking the grade described.

There is somewhat of an unsolved mystery among 1875 Indian cents, in that the reverse die in a certain production run was identified at the Mint so that the coins could be spotted later—a part of a security investigation. However, although we have viewed quite a few dozen 1875 Indian cents since learning this, we have yet to find one with a mark that would fit the situation described.

Gem Mint State 1877 Cent



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1355 1877 MS-65 RB (NGC).** A most pleasing example of this very popular key-date issue—one of the great landmarks in the small cent series. The present piece has considerable deep orange lustre, beginning to fade to olive and light brown.

For many years the 1877 has been respected, and rightfully so, as the key issue in the Indian series—being far and away the rarest of all dates. Curiously, a survey done in 1891 found very few pieces in circulation. Could it be that the mintage figure is incorrect, and even fewer were made than we realized? The answer may never be known.

At the time of issue, most numismatists opted to acquire Proofs, and thus the survival of a Mint State example such as this is a matter of mere unlikely chance. It is not often that we have such a delectable specimen in one of our sales.

- 1356** Pair of certified Proof cents: ☆ 1880 Proof-63 RB (PCGS). Minor spotting noted on the reverse ☆ 1889 Proof-64 RD (NGC). Spots noted on both surfaces. (Total: 2 pieces)

- 1357** Quartette of Proof cents with ANACS certificates: ☆ 1883 Proof-62. Splashes of blue-green and magenta toning on the obverse ☆ 1890 Proof-63. Minor spotting noted on both surfaces ☆ 1899 Proof-63. Olive-brown iridescent toning over both surfaces ☆ 1912 Matte Proof-61. Traces of original mint red in the protected areas. A few minute spots and scratches are noted. (Total: 4 pieces)



- 1358 1892 MS-65 RD (PCGS).** A bright and satiny gem, virtually as frosty and new as the day it left the mint. A few scattered specks are noted, most prominent of these a spot at the tip of Indian's neck, and another on the headdress feather that points to the M of AMERICA.



- 1359 1908-S MS-65 RD (NGC).** Bright, satiny red surfaces display strong lustre and a generous dash of eye appeal. A pleasing gem example of the first branch mint small cent issue.

Nice Group of Lincoln Cents

- 1360 Nearly complete set of Lincoln cents 1909 V.D.B. through 1950-S**
 ☆ 1909 V.D.B. MS-63 RB ☆ 1909 MS-64 RD ☆ 1909-S MS-63 BN
 ☆ 1910 MS-63 RD. Cleaned ☆ 1910-S MS-62 RB ☆ 1911 MS-64 RD
 ☆ 1911-D MS-63 RB ☆ 1911-S MS-62 RB ☆ 1912 MS-62 RB ☆
 1912-S MS-63 RB ☆ 1913 MS-62 RB ☆ 1913-S AU-58 ☆ 1914 MS-
 60 RB ☆ 1915 MS-64 RB ☆ 1915-D MS-64 RB ☆ 1916 MS-64 RD ☆
 1916-D MS-62 RB ☆ 1916-S MS-63 BN ☆ 1917 Net MS-62; sharp-
 ness of MS-64 RD, dipped ☆ 1917-D MS-62 BN ☆ 1917-S AU-55 ☆
 1918 MS-64 RD ☆ 1918-D MS-62 RB ☆ 1918-S AU-58 ☆ 1919 MS-
 64 RD ☆ 1919-D MS-64 RD ☆ 1919-S AU-53 ☆ 1920 MS-62 BN ☆
 1920-S AU-58 ☆ 1921 MS-64 RD ☆ 1921-S MS-63 RB ☆ 1922
 Plain. VG-10. Scarce and ever popular ☆ 1922-D MS-63 RD ☆
 1923 MS-63 RB ☆ 1923-S EF-45 ☆ 1924 MS-63 RB ☆ 1925 MS-64
 RB ☆ 1926 MS-64 RB ☆ 1926-S EF-45 ☆ 1927 MS-64 RD ☆ 1927-D
 MS-63 RB ☆ 1927-S EF-45 ☆ 1928 MS-62 RB ☆ 1928-D MS-63 RB
 ☆ 1928-S Net AU-58; sharpness of MS-64 RB, cleaned ☆ 1929 MS-
 63 RD ☆ 1929-D AU-58 ☆ 1929-S MS-63 RB ☆ 1930 MS-63 RD ☆
 1930-D MS-63 RB ☆ 1930-S MS-60 RB ☆ 1931 MS-63 RB ☆ 1931-
 D Net AU-50; sharpness of AU-58, cleaned ☆ 1931-S MS-64 RD.
 Remarkable for its low mintage ☆ 1932 MS-63 RB ☆ 1932-D MS-
 64 RD ☆ 1933 MS-60 RB ☆ 1933-D MS-60 RD. The remainder
 1934 through 1950-S grade average MS-63 or finer. Housed in a
 custom album. (Total: 108 pieces)

- 1361 1909-S V.D.B. Net AU-58;** sharpness of MS-63 RB, lightly cleaned (or dipped) some time ago. Still a pleasing example of this desirable issue from the first year of Lincoln cent coinage. Our grade will certainly be considered conservative by many who view this attractive specimen.

- 1362 1912-D MS-64 RB.** Lustrous and frosty deep red surfaces with pale blue and violet highlights. An elusive branch mint issue at the assigned grade.

- 1363 1913-D MS-65 RB.** Another Denver Mint issue that becomes decidedly elusive in high Mint State grades.

- 1364 1914-D AU-50. Medium to deep tan with some blue iridescence. Perhaps lightly cleaned long ago, yet still a pleasing example of this important key date from the Denver Mint.

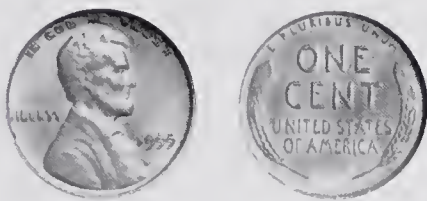
Mint State 1922 "Plain" Lincoln Cent

Die Pair 3

Weak D Mintmark



- 1365 1922-D Weak D. Die Pair 3. MS-64 RB. A superb quality example of the Weak D variety. Virtually full bright orange mint lustre with satiny, slightly reflective surfaces. A few minor spots and splashes of brown and iridescent toning are noted. The mintmark is so weak that detection requires a strong magnifier and orientation of the coin to just the proper angle beneath a light source. Otherwise, the mintmark is not visible.



- 1366 1955 Doubled Die Obverse. MS-64 BN (NGC). A pleasing example of this ever popular Doubled Die variety with lustrous light tan surfaces and splashes of original orange lustre in the protected areas around devices. A few tiny spots of verdigris are noted on the obverse.

This is one of the most visible of all Doubled Die varieties in the entire United States series, and by all accounts is far and away the most famous. The variety was more or less ignored immediately after its debut, but not long thereafter notice was taken of it in *Numismatic News*, calling it first the "shift" variety. Then recognition spread, eventually it became listed in *A Guide Book of United States Coins*, and the rest is history. Some interesting reading about the variety can be found in Dave Bowers' first book, *Coins and Collectors*, first published in 1964, and since then reprinted perhaps a dozen or more times—with well over 100,000 copies in print!

- 1367 1955 Doubled Die Obverse. AU-50. Splashes of mint red reside in the protected areas of this attractive medium brown specimen. Another specimen of this highly popular Lincoln cent, especially desirable.

Housed in an International Numismatic Grading Service (INGRS) holder.

TWO-CENT PIECES

- 1368 Quintette of two-cent pieces: ☆ 1864 Large Motto. (3). MS-60, AU-58, AU-55. Each with lustrous and attractive surfaces ☆ 1865 Plain 5. MS-64 BN. Lustrous ☆ 1865 Fancy 5. MS-63 RB. Lustrous with splashes of mint red in the protected areas. (Total: 5 pieces)

- 1369 1865 MS-66 RB (NGC). Bright red highlights on iridescent orange surfaces. Splashes of violet can be seen in the recessed areas. Fancy 5 in Date.

- 1370 1867 Doubled Die obverse. MS-60 BN (ANACS). Medium to deep tan with some rose iridescence on both sides. Doubling plainest at IN GOD WE TRUST. A scarce variety.

- 1371 1869 Proof-65 RB (PCGS). Reflective fields and lightly frosted motifs exhibit generous amounts of mint red. Two-cent pieces in gem Proof preservation are few and far between with regard to a specific date—just ask anyone who has been searching. To our way of thinking, this lovely 1869 offers a great deal of basic value at the current market price.

Memorable 1873 Open 3 Two Cents

Delightful Gem Proof



- 1372 1873 Open 3. Proof-66 RB (PCGS). A hint of attractive violet iridescence graces deep and fiery red and brown surfaces. A Proof-only rarity from the end of this popular, short-lived series. Both Open 3 and Closed 3 styles were struck in this terminal year of the denomination, with the Open 3 style (as offered here) probably about 10 times rarer than the Closed 3 style! A landmark in the series, the rarest individual date of this short-lived denomination. The present coin's importance cannot be overstated, and we expect serious bidding when this beautiful gem Proof crosses the auction block.

From our *Rarities Sale*, August 1998, Lot 52.

SILVER THREE-CENT PIECES

- 1373 1856 MS-63 (PCGS). Highly lustrous with pale golden highlights on both sides. A hint of striking weakness at the periphery, as frequently seen for this date. An attractive coin overall. Among Type II three-cent pieces the 1856 is scarce in any grade and at the Mint State level can be called a *rarity*. And yet, the market price is, perhaps, \$500 or so, an excellent value in our opinion.



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1374 1868 Proof-65 (NGC). Reflective dark pewter surfaces with lovely lilac and rose toning. A pleasing cameo treat. Three-cent silver coins were issued in relatively large quantities from 1851 to 1862. Beginning in 1863 and continuing until the end of the series, mintages were quite small. In 1868, 3,500 circulation strikes and 600 Proofs were minted.

In a way it is unfortunate that the 1868 is not the *only* low-mintage variety, and is not surrounded by dates in which generous quantities were made. If so, it would stand out like a beacon and would be worth many times its current market value. As it is, the 1868 joins a number of other dates—in fact, just about every date after 1862—as ranging from scarce to rare, somewhat anesthetizing the senses—sort of like the Proof-only half cents of the 1840s—rarity seems to be commonplace! The upside of this is that a truly rare coin—and the 1868 silver three-cent piece is indeed truly rare—sells for much less than would otherwise be the case.

NICKEL FIVE-CENT PIECES

- 1375 Quartette of certified nickels: ☆ 1867 Rays, AU-58 (PCGS). Pale golden rose toning over both surfaces ☆ 1883 No CENTS, MS-60 (PCGS). Lustrous with just a whisper of blue ☆ 1890 Proof-62 (PCGS). Reflective with soft golden highlights ☆ 1895 MS-63. Lustrous golden surfaces with minute spotting noted on both surfaces. (Total: 4 pieces)
- 1376 Liberty nickel selection: ☆ 1883 No CENTS, MS-60 ☆ 1883 With CENTS, MS-63, spots ☆ 1889 MS-64 ☆ 1899 MS-63 ☆ 1901 MS-63 ☆ 1904 MS-63 ☆ 1905 MS-63 ☆ 1906 MS-60 ☆ 1911 MS-63. (Total: 9 pieces)
- 1377 1899 Proof-65 (NGC). Sharply defined with reflective light gray Proof surfaces highlighted by splashes of bluish green and iridescent toning.
- 1378 1900 MS-65 (PCGS). A lovely example of this turn-of-the-century issue featuring light yellowish gray lustre and exceptional design definition. An outstanding candidate for the date or type collector.
- 1379 1902 MS-65 (ANACS). Intense golden lustre on satiny surfaces.

Impressive Set of Buffalo Nickels

- 1380 Complete set of Buffalo nickels: ☆ 1913 Type I, AU-55 ☆ 1913-D Type I, AU-50 ☆ 1913-S Type I, F-12 ☆ 1913 Type II, AU-53 ☆ 1913-D Type II, EF-45 ☆ 1913-S Type II, VF-25. Key date among the earlier issues ☆ 1914 AU-53 ☆ 1914-D VF-30 ☆ 1914-S VF-20 ☆ 1915 VF-25 ☆ 1915-D VF-25 ☆ 1915-S VF-30 ☆ 1916 VF-25 ☆ 1916-D VF-20 ☆ 1916-S F-15 ☆ 1917 EF-45 ☆ 1917-D F-15 ☆ 1917-S VF-20 ☆ 1918/7-D G-6. The famous overdate, first publicized in the 1930s, and since then gaining a place on the want list of just about every specialist. ☆ 1918 AU-55 ☆ 1918-D VF-25 ☆ 1918-S Net VG-10; VF-30 ☆ 1919 VF-35 ☆ 1919-D VF-20 ☆ 1919-S VF-25 ☆ 1920 VF-30 ☆ 1920-D VF-25 ☆ 1920-S VF-25 ☆ 1921 EF-40 ☆ 1921-S VF-20 ☆ 1923 F-15 ☆ 1923-S VF-20 ☆ 1924 VF-30 ☆ 1924-D VF-20 ☆ 1924-S F-15 ☆ 1925 VF-30 ☆ 1925-D F-15 ☆ 1925-S VF-20 ☆ 1926 VF-35 ☆ 1926-D F-12 ☆ 1926-S F-12. One of the more elusive varieties of the era. ☆ 1927 Net VF-25, sharpness of EF-40, cleaned ☆ 1927-D F-15 ☆ 1927-S Net VF-20, sharpness of VF-30, cleaned ☆ 1928 Net EF-45, sharpness of AU-53, cleaned ☆ 1928-S VF-25 ☆ 1929 VF-35 ☆ 1929-D AU-53 ☆ 1929-S EF-40 ☆ 1930 VF-35 ☆ 1930-S VF-25 ☆ 1931-S VF-25. Remarkably low mintage, but enough were saved that it is not a great rarity. ☆ 1934 Net VF-35, sharpness of AU-50, cleaned ☆ 1934-D F-15 ☆ 1935 Net VF-25, sharpness of VF-35, scratches ☆ 1935-D F-12 ☆ 1935-S EF-45 ☆ 1936 MS-61 ☆ 1936-D F-15 ☆ 1936-S Net VG-10, sharpness of F-12, scratches ☆ 1937 AU-50 ☆ 1937-D AU-58 ☆ 1937-D 3 Legged, EF-40. A super-popular issue. ☆ 1937-S F-12 ☆ 1938-D MS-63. A nice set with only a few pieces having minor problems. A few pieces with various degrees of toning. Housed in Capital plastic holder. (Total: 66 pieces)
- 1381 Quintette of nickels: ☆ 1913-D Type II, AU-50. Pale iridescent rose over lustrous surfaces ☆ 1914-D EF-40. Soft pearl gray surfaces ☆ 1917-D EF-45. Lustrous with iridescent magenta, gold, and blue highlights ☆ 1920-D EF-40. Soft gray surfaces ☆ 1926-D EF-40. Soft iridescent pearl over both surfaces. (Total: 5 pieces)

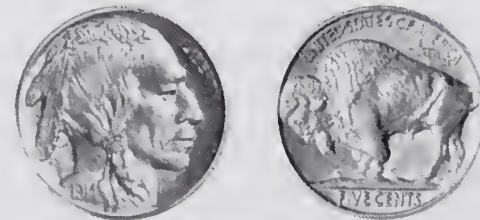


- 1382 1913-S Type II, MS-64 (PCGS). Lustrous light gray with a hint of attractive gold toning. Just a few very minor abrasions are visible as expected for the grade. Slightly weak peripheral details, however, very bold central obverse and reverse design features are noted. A scarce issue always in demand and frequently requested on collector want lists.

Going back to the 1950s when Buffalo nickels were often collected out of circulation (although on early dates the date portion of the coin was often worn nearly smooth), the 1913-S was one of the top two or three most difficult varieties to find—the very rarest being 1918/7-D. Mint State pieces were likewise considered to be rare, simply because the novelty of the first year of issue had passed, and not all that many were saved. Today in 2001 there is a mad scramble for “high numbers,” often at the expense of *foundational* rarity. As incredible as it may seem to old timers reading the present words, many more people today would rather purchase a gem MS-68 common 1938-D nickel than a sharp EF-45 1913-S, never mind that the 1913-S has been rare for several generations. We readily expect that this situation will straighten itself out, and that *foundational* rarity will again come to the fore. In fact, we sense that it is already happening.

- 1383 Quintette of nickels: ☆ 1913-S Type II, EF-40. Pale rose-gray toning over both surfaces ☆ 1915-S AU-50. Iridescent highlights on both surfaces ☆ 1919 EF-40. Soft golden orange at the devices ☆ 1923 MS-63. Lustrous with just a hint of gold ☆ 1925-S EF-40. Soft golden surfaces. (Total: 5 pieces)

Memorable Superb Gem 1914 Nickel Quality Seldom Seen



- 1384 1914 Matte Proof-66 (PCGS). A high degree of lustre graces the pale golden gray surfaces of this impressive gem Matte Proof Buffalo nickel. Sharply struck and fully appealing as a result. From a Matte Proof mintage for the date of 1,275 pieces, a lower mintage figure than the previous year in the series.

There are Matte Proofs and there are Matte Proofs, and among them this is one of the nicest 1914 issues we have ever seen. In our mind it is certainly a cut above the quality normally seen—and thus we suggest a strong bid.



- 1385 1914 Matte Proof-65 (PCGS). A sharply struck Matte Proof with golden toning and satiny lustre. Typical examples of this date have considerably more aesthetic appeal than Matte Proofs of other years.

The various types of Proof coins minted during this era have not been well delineated regarding the processes by which they were created. In general—although there may be some exceptions among the *sandblast* Proof gold coins—the Matte feature was part of the *die* preparation, and all coins struck from a given Matte Proof die had the same minute characteristics. Some years ago the American Numismatic Association Certification Service published a study of the characteristics of Matte Proof Lincoln cents and Buffalo nickels. Walter Breen, in his 1977 *Encyclopedia of Proof Coins*, spent many pages discussing Proofs of this era, but there was little information concerning the exact processes involved. We

have been gathering a file of information on gold Proofs and have come up with some information not generally realized today, and hope to publish it sometime in the future.

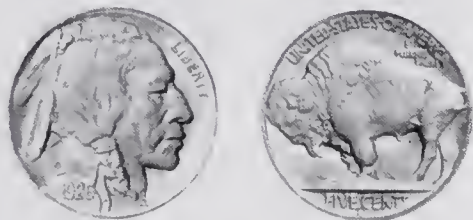
- 1386 Grouping of certified Buffalo nickels:** ☆ 1916-D MS-62 (PCGS). Iridescent gold toning over lustrous surfaces ☆ 1919 MS-63 (PCGS). Iridescent rose toning ☆ 1921 MS-64 (PCGS). Mixture of pale rose, gold, and gray toning over lustrous surfaces ☆ 1926 MS-64 (PCGS). Iridescent golden rose ☆ 1927-D MS-63. Lustrous with splashes of golden orange toning ☆ 1931-S MS-64 (PCGS). Intermingled rose and pale blue toning over lustrous surfaces ☆ 1938-D/D MS-65 (ANACS). Lustrous with just a whisper of iridescent orange. (Total: 7 pieces)

- 1387 1918/7-D VG-10 (PCGS).** A pleasing light gray example with most design features evident, including all four date digits. The overdate features are bold and the diagnostic die crack just above the Indian's braid is visible.

A die crack extends toward the Indian's cheek, beginning at the junction of the top braid and hair, just below the center of the obverse. This die crack is only known on overdates and provides an important authentication characteristic.

- 1388 1918-D MS-63 (ANACS).** A high degree of lustre burns brightly beneath iridescent rose, gold, and pale blue toning highlights. Some striking weakness on the reverse, typical for the date.

- 1389 1920 MS-66 (ICG).** A golden toned beauty. Although not a rare date, this issue is quite elusive in gem quality. This example is certain to generate considerable bidding activity.



- 1390 1926-D MS-64 (PCGS).** This scarce issue is particularly elusive in choice Mint State quality, especially when sharply struck as this example is. Subdued gray lustre with mottled iridescent toning. A small lamination defect, as struck, is just below the buffalo's tail. Very sharply struck with fully legible LIBERTY, all letters separated from the border. The buffalo's tail is sharply visible and split, with all other details equally bold. Among 1926-D nickels this piece, although it will not any beauty contests, is certainly in the top 10% survivors, quality wise. The specialist will know this well, while the newcomer may scratch his or her head and wonder why we should make such a statement.

- 1391 1928 MS-66 (PCGS).** Fully brilliant with satiny gray lustre and very sharp design definition. This outstanding example is sure to please.

- 1392 1928-D MS-65 (ICG).** Fully brilliant with satiny lustre and attractive pale gold toning. Typical strike for the issue with some weak details at central obverse and reverse.

- 1393 Pair of PCGS-certified nickels:** ☆ 1935-D MS-65. Satiny with a whisper of golden rose highlights with few minute toning spots noted ☆ 1938-D/S MS-66. Lustrous golden surfaces. (Total: 2 pieces)

- 1394 Pair of certified Mint State Buffalo nickels:** ☆ 1936-S MS-66 (PCGS). Lovely soft golden rose over lustrous surfaces ☆ 1938-D MS-67 (NGC). Golden centers changing to a lovely rose at the peripheries. (Total: 2 pieces)

- 1395 1937 Proof-64.** Dusky iridescent rose and pale gold grace the highly reflective surfaces of this delightful Proof. One of 5,769 Proofs of the date produced, a truly small number by today's standards.

Extraordinary 1937-D Buffalo Nickel

Three-Legged Reverse

Finest Certified



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1396 1937-D 3-Legged. MS-66 (NGC).** Although possibly not the single finest known example, this is arguably one of the very best in existence. An amazing gem with frosty lustre exhibiting faint pinkish gray toning. The surfaces are virtually pristine. Very sharply struck with full LIBERTY, sharp braid, and strong details on the reverse. The buffalo's tail is not easily visible, however, that characteristic is a result of the die state, rather than striking quality.

NGC Census: 12; none finer. Additionally, PCGS has certified three coins at this grade level with none finer.

This is one of four popular and distinctive varieties within the Buffalo nickel series along with the 1916 Doubled Die the 1918/7-D overdate, and the 1938-D/S overmintmark. The first three are extremely rare (or nonexistent) in gem Mint State, leaving the overmintmark as the only piece that can be realistically acquired.

The 1937-D 3-Legged reverse was created when a workman at the Mint extensively polished the reverse die in an attempt to remove die defects. His efforts went a little too far and also removed parts of the actual design, including the buffalo's right front leg. An additional result is the diminished stature of the entire buffalo, which is now clearly separated from the motto E PLURIBUS UNUM. This latter trait is an important consideration for counterfeit detection.

In his *Complete Encyclopedia*, Walter Breen recounts an engaging story regarding one "Mr. Young," a new pressman at the Mint who was under extreme pressure to reach a quota of minted coins. Rather than replace a pair of clashed dies, the story continues, Mr. Young took an emery stick to the die in an effort to remove the clash marks, thus creating this variety. Unfortunately, the author provides no source for this tale. In *The Complete Guide to Buffalo Nickels*, David W. Lange reported that most examples of this variety were originally discovered in Montana, and thus assumes (logically so) that the bags containing these coins were delivered to that state.

- 1397 Original roll of 1937-S Buffalo nickels,** average grade MS-63, many finer. Some are delicately toned. (Total: 40 pieces)

- 1398 Original roll of 1937-S Buffalo nickels,** average grade MS-63, many finer. Some lightly toned. (Total: 40 pieces)

- 1399 Original roll of 1938-D Buffalo nickels,** grades averaging MS-63 to MS-64, many finer. Some lightly toned. (Total: 40 pieces)

This roll is unchecked by us for D-D or D-S varieties. Happy hunting!

HALF DIMES

Impressive 1803 Half Dime



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1400 1803 Valentine-3, Logan McCloskey-1. Rarity-6. EF-40 (NGC).** Medium silver gray with traces of golden lustre. Some scattered marks are noted, most prominent of these being a shallow, old scrape on the reverse that extends from the bottom of the 1 in UNITED to the lowest horizontal line on the shield. A rare variety (although *all* half dimes of the Draped Bust type can be considered rare at EF-40 or finer). An aesthetically enjoyable specimen in all regards.

Miss Liberty's bust is joined to the rim by a sizeable cud.

Choice Proof 1829 Half Dime

— Valentine-3, Rarity-7



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1401 1829 V-3, LM-2. Rarity-7. Proof-64 (NGC).** Crescents of deep gold and electric blue gather at the rims of this delightful Proof half dime. Frosty motifs and mirror fields form an exciting cameo contrast. Fewer than 10 examples of this date are known in Proof format, with one of those permanently ensconced in the Smithsonian Institution collection. The present coin is equal to the Eliasberg specimen for grade and eye appeal, and that just about says it all! A splendid opportunity for the advanced half dime specialist as well as the collector of numismatic rarities.

An early newspaper account shows that on July 4, 1829, before 6:00 in the morning, Mint employees struck presentation 1829 half dimes to be enclosed in the cornerstone for the Second Philadelphia Mint, which was laid on that day. Construction then progressed, and in January 1833 the transfer of facilities was made.

Not only is the 1829 rare in Proof and not only does it have historical significance, but it is additionally important as the first year in the half dime series with the Capped Bust motif. One could say that this particular specimen "has it all!"

- 1402 1871 MS-65 (PCGS).** Deeply frosty and lustrous. Under magnification some interesting clash marks are seen, particularly on the reverse where part of the outline of Miss Liberty is visible. Some lightness of striking at upper left part of wreath. All told a very nice piece higher in quality than normally seen.

DIMES

Popular 1796 Dime

First Year of Denomination



- 1403 1796 John Reich-4. Rarity-4. Net VF-20;** sharpness of EF-40, but brushed, lightly cleaned, and retoned. Steel gray surfaces with lighter high points. A few stray marks are noted for accuracy. Worthy of in-person examination before judgement is passed. A pleasing coin overall in spite of itself.

From our sale of the Rogers M. Fred, Jr. and Peter A. Ward, M.D. Collections, November 1995, Lot 2407; previously from our sale of the Brilliant and Sieck Collections, January 1992, Lot 1124.

Popular 1800 Dime

The Eliasberg Specimen



- 1404 1800 JR-2. Rarity-5. EF-40 (PCGS).** Medium silver gray with splashes of iridescent gold on the somewhat reflective surfaces. Nicely struck for the date. A few scattered marks are present, but the overall appeal is quite fine. The scarcer of just two varieties known for the date.

From our sale of the Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection, May 1996, Lot 1047.

- 1405 1809 JR-1. Rarity-4. Capped Bust. Net VF-20;** sharpness of EF-40, but with lightly scratched and slightly rough surfaces. Medium gray with lighter gray high points. An appealing example of this scarce variety despite a few stray blemishes.

- 1406 Quartette of early dimes:** ☆ 1820 JR-6. Rarity-3. Net VF-30; sharpness of EF-45, brushed ☆ 1821 JR-5. Rarity-3. EF-45. Soft lavender-gray surfaces with some mint lustre remaining ☆ 1822 JR-1. Rarity-3. Net G-6; sharpness of VG-10, scratched ☆ 1827 JR-11. VF-25. Mottled gray and blue with splashes of gold, magenta, and olive. (Total: 4 pieces)

Choice Proof 1825 Dime

John Reich-2, Rarity-7



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1407 **1825 JR-2. Proof-63 (NGC).** Speckled gold and auburn toning on lightly frosted motifs and mirrored fields. A touch of striking weakness is noted above Liberty's shoulder on the obverse, and at the eagle's left (viewer's right) shoulder on the reverse. A prized rarity, with perhaps only six or so examples known in Proof. A grand opportunity for the Capped Bust dime enthusiast.
- 1408 **1827 JR-13. Capped Bust.** Net EF-40; sharpness of AU-55 or so, but cleaned and retoned. Deep iridescent gold on slightly reflective surfaces.
From Stack's sale of January 1997, Lot 511.
- 1409 **1846 EF-40.** A pleasing golden gray specimen of one of the key early dates in the Liberty dime series. Splashes of sea green and bright gold iridescence grace the surfaces. A few scattered marks are noted for accuracy, none of which demand individual description. Interestingly, the 1846 Liberty Seated dime, remarkable for its low mintage, is about as rare, if not rarer than its famous cousin, the 1844 dime—which gets all of the publicity. Not often do we or anyone else have an EF 1846 dime available.
From Stack's sale of September 1996, Lot 1159.
- 1410 **1865 F-12.** Medium golden gray. Devoid of all but the tiniest surface marks, and choice for just that reason. A low-mintage rarity; just 10,000 circulation strikes of the date were produced. A piece with a tremendous amount of *foundational value*, a concept discussed earlier under the 1913-S Type II Buffalo nickel.
- 1411 **1872 Proof-63 (NGC).** Steel gray with satiny devices and mirrored fields.

Superb Gem Proof 1879 Dime



- 1412 **1879 Proof-66 (NGC).** Brilliant and attractive. A pleasing example of this very popular date, the desire for which is augmented by the fact that related circulation strikes are of exceedingly low mintage and not easily found—placing extra demand upon the Proofs.
- 1413 **Pair of Proof dimes:** ☆ 1880 Proof-60. Reflective with splashes of mottled iridescent blue and brownish gray ☆ 1884 Proof-62. Reflective with golden gray fields. (Total: 2 pieces)



- 1414 **1880 MS-66 (NGC).** Brilliant with immaculate and reflective surfaces. Only 36,000 pieces were struck in 1880, and Breen asserts that circulation strikes are scarcer than Proofs. Few survive finer than this impressive specimen. This is a dandy coin for the quality conscious bidder.
- 1415 **1880 AU-58.** Lustrous and somewhat prooflike in appearance, with rich golden toning highlights. A scarce date with a modest circulation strike mintage of only 36,000 pieces.

Famous 1886-S Rarity



- 1416 **1886-S MS-64 (PCGS).** Lustrous with light champagne surfaces. Wonderful eye appeal. Deeply and beautifully struck. Issued in an era in which there was virtually no interest in collecting mintmarks. Thus, the survival of choice Mint State pieces is a matter of the merest chance. The specialist in Liberty Seated dimes will want to pull out all the stops when bidding on this one!
- 1417 **1911 MS-65 (NGC).** Brilliant and lustrous. Of hand selected quality. We can imagine that you would need to look at three or four coins to find one this nice.
- 1418 **1912 MS-65 (NGC).** Brilliant, lustrous obverse. Ditto for the reverse plus some delicate toning. Needle-sharp strike. Another premium quality coin!
- 1419 **1924 MS-65 FB (PCGS).** Lustrous, nicely struck and very attractive. Soft gray and champagne toning highlight the obverse.
- 1420 **1924-S MS-63 FB (NGC).** Brilliant and frosty—not much different, we suspect, than on the *day* it was struck.
- 1421 **1931-D MS-66 FB (PCGS).** This is a lovely gem example with brilliant, frosty silver lustre and pristine surfaces. A delightful example sure to please the next owner.
- 1422 **1940-S MS-67 FB (PCGS).** Fully brilliant satiny lustre with a hint of very faint champagne toning. This variety is quite elusive in fully struck gem quality.
- 1423 **1942 MS-67 FB (PCGS).** An exceptional frosty white gem with superb aesthetic appeal. A coin for the connoisseur.
- 1424 **1942 MS-67 FB (PCGS).** This lovely gem has fully brilliant silver lustre and extremely sharp design features. A small polished area may be seen at lower left obverse.
- 1425 **Original roll of 1945-S Mercury dimes** grading MS-63 to MS-64, no doubt some are finer. A pleasing roll. (Total: 50 pieces)

TWENTY-CENT PIECES

- 1426 **Pair of 1875-S twenty-cent pieces:** ☆ AU-58 ☆ AU-55. Two nice coins. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 1427 **1875-S AU-55 (NGC).** Lustrous steel gray with some golden highlights. Some deep violet toning spots are noted on the reverse.

Impressive Gem Proof 1878 20¢

Final Year of the Series



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1428 1878 Proof-65 (PCGS). Deep violet and rose iridescence on reflective steel gray surfaces. The devices are frosty and the fields are mirrored. Nicely struck in all places. A classic issue from this short-lived series (1875-1878), one of just 600 Proofs of the date struck without attendant circulation strikes.

The precise number of Proof 1878 20-cent pieces struck is not known with certainty, and over the years a number of different figures have been published (just check back issues of the *Guide Book*). The 600 figure, currently used by some, probably is well within the ballpark. Low figures such as 250 and 350 are probably over the outfield fence.

QUARTER DOLLARS

1796 Quarter Dollar Rarity



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1429 1796 Browning-2. Rarity-3. VG-10 (PCGS). Deep golden gray with medium blue highlights. Some scattered, tiny pin pricks be-

come obvious under low magnification, and are placed mainly on the obverse. A prized rarity in the quarter dollar series, struck during the first year of the denomination and the only year with the Small Eagle reverse style (the next quarter dollar issue was an 1804, and that obverse was coupled with a Heraldic Eagle reverse). Choice for the grade despite the aforementioned tiny marks. A highly collectible example of a prized rarity, a coin that should see eager bidding activity.

Desirable 1804 Quarter Dollar



- 1430 1804 B-1. Rarity-4. F-12. Natural light gray obverse with slightly darker gray reverse. Very faint hairlines and other tiny scratches are visible. A pleasing example, however, and in demand as a scarce date. Although quarter dollars were struck in 1796, this is the first year of this type with Draped Bust obverse and Heraldic Eagle reverse. An unwanted denomination, quarter dollars were issued sporadically and in relatively small quantities.
- 1431 Quintette of early quarter dollar issues: ☆ 1806/5 B-1. Overdate. VG-8 ☆ 1819 B-1. Rarity-4. Large 9. F-12 ☆ 1831 B-1. Small Letters. EF-40. Cleaned ☆ 1834 B-3. Rarity-3. EF-40 ☆ 1862 AU-50. Lustrous with attractive toning. (Total: 5 pieces)

Gem Uncirculated 1838 Liberty Seated 25¢

Condition Census



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1432 1838 No Drapery. MS-65 (PCGS). Bright lilac, gold, and violet iridescence on highly lustrous, satiny surfaces. A sharply struck gem from the first year of Liberty Seated quarter coinage, with even the finest of design details boldly rendered. A truly splendid representative example of the date and type. Indeed, the present coin is among the finest of the date certified by PCGS, and probably among the finest known examples.

PCGS Population: 2; 2 finer (MS-66).



- 1433 1839 No Drapery. MS-62 (PCGS). Deep rose-gray bordering on slate at the obverse center, lighter at the rims. The reverse is highly lustrous with rich rose iridescence on silver gray surfaces. Scarce in Mint State, as are many so-called "common" date quarters from the era.

A faint obverse crack runs from beneath the 1 of the date upward across the rock to the second star, then connects stars three, four, and five as well. On the reverse, a more noticeable crack runs from the rim at 9:00 through the T of UNITED, then entirely across the field and eagle, through the R in AMERICA, then to the rim at 3:00.

Lustrous Gem Mint State 1840 Quarter

With Drapery

Tied for Finest Graded by PCGS



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1434 1840 Drapery. MS-65 (PCGS). A sharp and attractive gem. Splashes of rich golden iridescence vary in intensity on the frosty, lustrous surfaces, while a whisper of pale sky blue gathers at the rims. Rare so fine. Indeed, the connoisseur would be hard pressed to locate a finer example of this date. At least, we would find a challenge to be very difficult. We suspect the offering of the present coin represents an opportunity that will not be repeated in the near future, and potential bidders are urged to respond accordingly.

PCGS Population: 2; none finer.

From Superior's sale of the Rasmussen Collection, February 1998, Lot 2005.

- 1435 1840-O Drapery. AU-58 (PCGS). A lustrous golden gray specimen with deep rose highlights on the high points and speckled slate highlights elsewhere. From a modest mintage for the date of 13,000 pieces, and relatively elusive in high grades.

A faint obverse crack connects the bottoms of the date numerals, and another crack runs from Liberty's foot to the last two stars. Struck from a rusted and cracked reverse die. A heavy crack connects the bottoms of UNITED STATES OF, while another crack connects the bottoms of AMERICA; die rust at that word has weakened the letters considerably as well. Another crack connects QUAR. DOL. with the arrowheads. Other faint cracks are seen in places.

Choice Uncirculated 1841 Quarter

Among Finest Certified by PCGS



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1436 1841 MS-64 (PCGS). A lustrous, satiny gem. Brilliant centers give way to rose, gold, and electric blue highlights toward the rims. Sharply struck in all areas save for the final obverse star. Easily among the finest examples of the date extant; PCGS has certified just nine Mint State examples of this date!. The sharpness of strike and the overall aesthetic appeal of the present coin readily place the piece high in the Condition Census for the date. A lovely coin that will almost certainly attract spirited bids.

PCGS Population: 4; 1 finer (MS-66).

Choice Mint State 1842 Quarter

None Graded Finer by PCGS



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1437 1842 Large Date. MS-64 (PCGS). Fully brilliant save for a nuance of pale champagne toning. Boldly prooflike, with frosted motifs set securely against mirror fields. Nicely struck in all areas. From a

fairly modest mintage of only 88,000 circulation strikes. The present specimen is easily among the finest known survivors from that mintage, and certainly ranks at or near the top of the Condition Census for the date. A splendid opportunity for the Liberty Seated quarter enthusiast.

PCGS Population: 2; none finer.

Gem Uncirculated 1843 Quarter

Finest Graded by PCGS



- 1438 1843 MS-65 (PCGS). Lustrous deep lilac-gray with overlying electric blue and gold iridescence. Sharply struck in all areas of the design, and quite appealing as such. Perhaps the finest surviving specimen from a somewhat sizeable circulation strike mintage for the date of 645,600 coins. PCGS has not yet graded an equal to the present specimen, which gives this coin a clear advantage to claim "finest known" honors for the date.

PCGS Population: 1; none finer.

A reverse die crack runs from the rim through the M of AMERICA, and from there across the field where it terminates at the back of the eagle's neck.

Impressive 1843-O Quarter

Choice Mint State

Finest Graded by PCGS



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1439 1843-O MS-64 (PCGS). Delightful pale golden iridescence evenly distributed on frosty, lustrous surfaces. Sharply struck in all areas of the design. The obverse shows some faint roughness on the motifs, no doubt caused by die rust; this is not an impediment, and is mentioned solely for the sake of accuracy. For the record, 968,000 circulation strikes of the date were produced, a fairly lofty production figure for the era. Amazingly, of that mintage, the present coin is quite probably the finest known surviving example of the date! It certainly has no peers in the PCGS Population Report.

This impressive specimen is destined to take an important place in an advanced Liberty Seated quarter cabinet.

PCGS Population: 1; none finer.

Struck from a shattered reverse die. Die cracks extend from the rim above M in AMERICA, running from there across the field to the eagle's wing and then to the back of its neck. Another crack runs from the rim across the middle arrowhead, then across the eagle's torso at the bottom of the shield, and from there to the eagle's right (viewer's left) wing tip, then to the rim below. Another crack runs from the wing tip through UNITED STATES. Yet another crack runs from the rim through the D in UNITED and across the field to the wing.

On the shield, many of the vertical shield lines run well into the horizontal lines above.

Gem Mint State 1845 Quarter

Tied for Finest Certified by PCGS



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1440 1845 MS-65 (PCGS). Intense golden iridescence on lustrous, satiny surfaces. Nicely struck, aesthetically appealing, and essentially everything a gem Uncirculated coin should be. A Condition Census example of the date, and definitely one of the finest surviving specimens from a circulation strike mintage of 922,000 pieces; this could very well be the finest example of the date currently known! A joy to behold for its quality and appearance, and certain to attract strong bidding support from appreciative collectors.

PCGS Population: 3; none finer.

Top of 5 in date boldly repunched; this variety was called an 1845 / 3 overdate decades ago.

Several faint die cracks are seen on both sides, including one at the date that connects with several stars on the left side, and others that wend their way throughout much of the reverse peripheral legends.

Gem Uncirculated 1846 Quarter

High Condition Census
Finest Graded by PCGS



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1441 **1846 MS-65 (PCGS)**. Strong cartwheel lustre present on lively golden gray surfaces. Sharply struck. One of 520,000 circulation strikes of the date produced, and readily among the finest examples of the date from that generous production run. Undoubtedly within the *Condition Census* for the date, probably even at the top of that listing. This is certainly the finest example of the date certified by PCGS, and our money is on the present specimen where "finest known" status for the date is concerned. Another splendid opportunity for the Liberty Seated quarter specialist.

PCGS Population: 1; none finer.

As with virtually all dies dated 1846, and within all denominations and metals, the date numerals on the present coin have a crude, "homemade" appearance to them, rather than the usual well-formed appearance of most other dates.

Sharp 1847 Quarter

Gem Mint State
Finest Graded by PCGS



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1442 **1847 MS-65 (PCGS)**. Satiny, lustrous lilac-gray surfaces show warm rose, pale blue, and light gold iridescence. Sharply struck in all places. The present coin is the only example of the date graded MS-65 by PCGS, and is quite probably the finest known survivor from a circulation strike mintage of 734,000 pieces—quite a feat in its own right! The true rarity of gem Uncirculated Liberty Seated quarters from this era is vastly underappreciated, and the collector who bids successfully on the present lot will be well ahead of the pack if this series gains in popularity.

PCGS Population: 1; none finer.

Important 1849 Quarter

Choice Uncirculated
Among Finest Graded by PCGS



- 1443 **1849 MS-64 (PCGS)**. Speckled gold and rose on lustrous medium gray surfaces. Nicely struck. Among the finest survivors of the date, one of only two specimens certified MS-64 by PCGS; none have been awarded a finer grade. As with virtually all other dates from the era, this date is a prized rarity in Mint State. The present specimen is high in the *Condition Census* for the date, and certainly has a clear advantage at claiming finest known honors. Another prize for the alert collector.

PCGS Population: 2; none finer.

Important 1850 Liberty Seated 25¢

Gem Uncirculated

Finest Graded by PCGS

Extra 1 in Dentils Variety



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1444 1850 MS-65 (PCGS). A satiny gem of truly impressive appearance and quality. Velvety smooth surfaces show strong lustre and delightful rose toning. The strike is sharp in all places save for a hint of weakness at the eagle's leg on the reverse. The overall quality is choice for the grade, making this a definite contender for "finest known" honors for the date. For the record, PCGS has not graded its equal to date, a fact that won't go unnoticed by alert collectors. Add to that the fact that it is an elusive variety with an extra numeral in the dentils below the date, and the piece becomes even more appealing. By any account, it is certainly a high *Condition Census* survivor from a mintage of 190,800 circulation strikes, and worthy of serious bidding competition as such.

PCGS Population: 1; none finer.

The base of an errant numeral 1 is noted in the dentils and on the rim immediately below the existing 1 in the date.

As a general rule quarter dollars are much scarcer in high grades than are Liberty Seated half dimes, dimes, or half dollars of the same era. Mintages were often low, and survival was strictly a matter of chance, not intent. In fact, one can survey the entire field of American auction catalogues from the early 1850s onward and not find a single complete Mint State set of quarter dollars ever offered or, for that matter, even a set *nearly* complete in Mint State—a truly remarkable situation.

Choice Uncirculated 1850-O 25¢

Among Finest Certified by PCGS



- 1445 1850-O MS-63 (PCGS). Lustrous golden gray with pale rose and blue toning highlights. Nicely struck; the obverse die was lightly rusted, imparting a light, mattelike appearance to Liberty. A desirable rarity at the assigned grade despite a lofty mintage (for the era) of 412,000 pieces. Very few specimens from that mintage

have survived in Uncirculated grades, making the present coin all the more important to today's specialists. Easily among the finest known of the date, and worthy of your attention as such.

PCGS Population: 4; 1 finer (MS-64).

Reverse die crack from rim to point of lowest arrowhead. Additionally, the eagle's shield shows an extra horizontal line in the hollow field area between the final four vertical stripes of the shield.

Choice Mint State 1852 Quarter



- 1446 1852 MS-64 (PCGS). A high degree of lustre graces satiny pale champagne surfaces. A fairly scarce date in Mint State; some of the 177,060 circulation strikes of the date may have been melted in 1853 after the weight change went into effect. Sharply struck and choice for the assigned grade. A pleasing coin in all respects.

PCGS Population: 7; 4 finer (MS-66 finest).

Spidery die breaks present at ED STA on the reverse.

Richly Toned 1853 Arrows and Rays 25¢



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1447 1853 Arrows and Rays. MS-65 (PCGS). Deep violet, rose, and blue iridescence graces highly lustrous lilac-gray surfaces. Sharply struck in all areas. An intensely toned gem with an overall quality that readily supports the assigned grade. A perennial favorite with quarter dollar specialists and type coin collectors alike.

Choice Uncirculated 1854 Arrows 25¢



1448 1854 MS-64 (PCGS). Lustrous golden gray with rose and pale blue toning highlights nicely distributed on both sides. A sharply struck example of the date. A splendid opportunity to obtain a truly choice example of the date without having to "stretch" the budget for a gem specimen.

Impressive 1856 Quarter

Gem Mint State

Tied for Finest Graded by PCGS



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

1449 1856 MS-66 (PCGS). Amazing bursts of bright gold, yellow, rose, and electric blue grace lustrous pearl gray surfaces. Some lightness of strike is seen at the centers, not an unusual occurrence for this date. A numismatic prize in gem Uncirculated despite a sizeable mintage for the date of more than 7.2 million coins. The fact that perhaps fewer than 20 or so gems exist today from that sizeable mintage speaks volumes regarding the rarity of the present coin! One of the so-called "common" dates that is anything but common in gem Mint State! Another splendid opportunity for the Liberty Seated quarter specialist.

PCGS Population: 9; none finer.

Gem Uncirculated 1857 Quarter



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

1450 1857 MS-65 (PCGS). Mainly brilliant with a pale dusting of gold at the center of the obverse. A frosty and lustrous gem of outstanding quality and equally impressive eye appeal. Nicely struck. This attractive piece would make an outstanding addition to any numismatic cabinet.

Brilliant 1858 Quarter

Gem Mint State



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

1451 1858 MS-65 (PCGS). Fully brilliant, with intense cartwheel lustre present as well. A trifle weak in areas of the design, but sharper overall than is often seen for the date. A pleasing example of the date, and easily worthy of its assigned grade.

As a prospective bidder we invite you to *revel* in the offering of Liberty Seated quarters (mostly from the Douglas Noblet Collection) in this section of the catalogue—secure in the knowledge that few comparable presentations will occur in the present era. The coin market is very strong at present, buoyed by normal collector

demand augmented with new funds coming in that might otherwise have gone to the stock market. And yet there are still many opportunities to purchase coins to good advantage.

Choice Uncirculated 1859 Quarter



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1452 1859 MS-64 (PCGS). Satiny and lustrous surfaces display even pale golden iridescence.

Struck from lightly clashed dies; the vertical shield lines from the reverse show at the crook of Liberty's elbow on the obverse. Spidery die breaks are seen at ED STA on the reverse.

Choice Mint State 1860-O 25¢

Among Finest Graded by PCGS
Struck from Boldly Clashed Dies



- 1453 1860-O MS-64 (PCGS). Pale golden centers give way to bright gold, violet, and electric blue at the rims. Intense cartwheel lustre increases the overall aesthetic appeal. A pleasing coin for the grade; a few well-hidden marks keep it out of the gem classification. The final date quarter dollar issued from the New Orleans Mint until 1891, and a desirable prize in choice Mint State.

PCGS Population: 4; 2 finer (MS-65).

On the reverse, the letters RTY can be seen under the eagle's beak and neck, a result of moderately heavy die clash.

Gorgeous Gem 1861 Quarter



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1454 1861 MS-65 (PCGS). A lustrous, bright, and satiny gem of the finest order. Sharply struck, with strong evidence of clashing seen on both sides. A numismatic delight in all regards.

Gem Mint State 1861 Quarter



- 1455 1861 MS-65 (PCGS). Sharply struck with lustrous ivory surfaces. This is an exceptional gem example for the connoisseur. Liberty Seated quarter dollars of the No Motto type are quite rare in gem condition.

Impressive Gem Uncirculated 1862 Quarter

Among Finest Graded by PCGS



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1456 1862 MS-66 (PCGS). Intensely lustrous satiny surfaces. Sharply struck. An impressive gem quarter dollar, among the finest of the date graded by PCGS. Another example of a so-called "common" date that is anything but common at the gem level, and worthy of bidder attention as such.

PCGS Population: 6; 2 finer (MS-67).

Lustrous 1863 Quarter

Gem Mint State



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1457 1863 MS-65 (PCGS). A satiny, highly lustrous gem with a hint of pale champagne toning. Sharply struck and a real eye catcher. A subtle yet readily apparent cameo contrast is noted between the frothy motifs and the slightly prooflike fields.

A faint obverse die crack mites the final four stars, while a reverse die crack wends its way throughout the peripheral legends.

- 1458 1863 MS-63. Lustrous golden gray with deeper golden highlights in places. Sharply struck and aesthetically appealing.

Gem Mint State 1864 25¢



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1459 1864 MS-65 (PCGS). Highly lustrous pale golden gray with satiny surfaces and delightful eye appeal. Sharply struck in all places. Possessed of an overall quality that would be difficult to improve upon. This is a solid gem Liberty Seated quarter, a coin truly worthy of special bidder attention.

Choice Uncirculated 1865-S 25¢

Among Finest Certified by PCGS



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1460 1865-S MS-64 (PCGS). Radiant light golden lustre on satiny surfaces. A touch of pale pastel rose and equally pale blue can be seen. The strike is sharp in all areas save for a few obverse stars. From a mintage of just 11,000 pieces, most of which went immediately into the channels of commerce in San Francisco and the sur-

rounding environs. Fortunately for today's collectors, a few specimens were saved before they went into circulation—probably inadvertently—and today's collectors are able to enjoy this rarity, if only occasionally, in pristine choice Mint State. Worthy of note: PCGS has only certified one example of the date in a finer grade.

PCGS Population: 5; 1 finer (MS-66).

On the obverse, the base of the 1 in the date is plainly repunched; lesser repunching can be seen on the 8.

Lustrous 1866 Quarter With Motto

Choice Mint State



- 1461 1866 Motto. MS-64 (PCGS). Incredible lustre fairly lights up the surfaces of this satiny iridescent lilac-gray delight. Somewhat lightly struck near the centers, not an unusual occurrence for the date. Lightly prooflike as well. One of only 16,800 circulation strike quarters produced in this, the first year of the design type with the motto IN GOD WE TRUST on the reverse. A lovely coin in a pleasing state of preservation, one that would make a fine addition to any cabinet of Liberty Seated quarters.

PCGS Population: 6; 4 finer (MS-67 finest).

Vividly Toned 1868 Quarter Rarity

Gem Mint State

Tied for Finest Graded by PCGS



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1462 1868 MS-65 (PCGS). Vivid gunmetal-blue at the rims progresses inward to concentric rings of iridescent violet, rose, and warm orange-gold. A highly lustrous and equally frosty gem. Sharply struck. Just 29,100 circulation strikes of the date were produced, and gem survivors from that mintage can probably be counted on one hand! Definitely a high Condition Census example of the date, and tied for finest seen by PCGS.

PCGS Population: 2; none finer.

Superb Gem Uncirculated 1869 25¢

Low-Mintage Rarity

Finest Certified by PCGS



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1463 1869 MS-66 (PCGS). Richly toned in iridescent shades of violet, deep rose, gold, and indigo. A frosty gem example of a low-mintage date; just 16,000 circulation strikes of this date left Philadelphia's coinage presses, and few Uncirculated specimens from that mintage are known today. In fact, the present coin is the finest survivor from that mintage that PCGS has certified! Virtually unimprovable where quality is concerned, and easily a candidate for "finest known" honors for the date.

PCGS Population: 1; none finer.

Frosty Gem Uncirculated 1870 25¢

Among Finest Graded by PCGS



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1464 1870 MS-65 (PCGS). Brilliant and highly lustrous, a satiny tribute to the coiner's craft. Sharply struck, indeed, impressively so. All of

the finest design details show plainly on this numismatic treat. Readily among the Condition Census for the date, and certainly among the finest known surviving specimens of the date in overall appearance and appeal.

PCGS Population: 4; 2 finer (MS-66).

Many fine, raised die lines crisscross the fields of this specimen, caused while the dies were being hand polished. Such lines typically fade rapidly from the dies during use, indicating that the present coin was struck early on in the life of the dies, or at least soon after they were polished.

Underrated 1871 Quarter

Gem Mint State

Finest Seen by PCGS



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1465 1871 MS-65 (PCGS). A satiny and lustrous gem, nicely struck save for a touch of weakness at the obverse periphery. A burst of intense deep golden orange surrounds the devices on the obverse of this pleasing gem, while the reverse displays just a hint of the same toning. An elusive date in grades above EF despite its fairly large mintage (for the era) of 118,200 circulation strikes. Students of this series feel that some of that total production figure never left the mint and may have been melted in 1873 at the time of the weight change. Historical rhetoric aside, this amazing gem has one other thing going for it: it is the finest example of the date certified by PCGS!

PCGS Population: 1; none finer.

Impressive Gem 1873 No Arrows 25¢

Finest Certified by PCGS



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1466 1873 No Arrows, Open 3. MS-66 (PCGS). Intense but even gun-metal-blue, lilac-gray, and sea green iridescence on the obverse, with bright iridescent rose, peach, violet, and blue on the reverse. Superbly lustrous, with a broad, cascading cartwheel that spins intensely under lamp light. Certainly high Condition Census for the date, and quite possibly the finest known example of the issue. The present coin may very well be the epitome of available specimens of the date, so please bid accordingly.

PCGS Population: 1; none finer.

Delightful 1873 Arrows 25¢

Tied for Finest Certified by PCGS



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1467 1873 Arrows. MS-65 (PCGS). A frosty delight! The surfaces are essentially brilliant save for a pale whisper of champagne iridescence, and the lustre fairly leaps from the sharp devices and satiny

fields. A truly premium example of this popular date and type combination, and worth a premium bid as such.

PCGS Population: 11; none finer.

Impressive 1874-S Arrows 25¢

Among the Finest Graded by PCGS



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1468 1874-S Arrows. MS-66 (PCGS).** A satiny gem with subdued pastel iridescent peach and pale rose toning. Sharply struck in all places. A desirable branch mint issue in gem Mint State owing to its popular design type with arrows at the date. Among the finest certified examples of the date available; PCGS has only certified one example of the date at a finer grade. Opportunity knocks.



- 1469 1875 MS-65 (PCGS).** Frosty, satiny, lustrous, well struck, the list of superlatives could go on and on, but you get the idea; what a lovely coin! A whisper of pale golden iridescence graces the obverse, adding nicely to the overall appeal of the piece. Ideally suited for the collector seeking a nice balance of quality and value.

The apparent top of an errant 8 can be seen in the dentils below the existing 8 of the date.



- 1470 1876 MS-65 (ICG).** Lustrous pale silver gray with rose highlights. A satiny gem, and easily equal to the challenge where the grade is concerned.

A faint obverse crack connects most of the peripheral stars, while another faint crack connects nearly all of the reverse legends.

Prooflike 1876-CC 25¢

Gem Uncirculated

Among the Finest Graded by PCGS



- 1471 1876-CC MS-65 (PCGS).** A lustrous pale golden gem. The satiny devices rest sublimely against deeply mirrored fields, the end result being an outstanding cameo contrast. A lovely gem from Nevada's capital city mint, and highly desirable as such. Among the finest PCGS-certified examples of the date, and worthy of note to potential bidders for that reason.

PCGS Population: 5; 2 finer (MS-66).

Myriad raised die lines crisscross the fields on both sides of this coin, indicating early die use immediately after substantial die polishing.

In 1876 the glory days of the Comstock Lode had passed, what with large domestic production bringing quantities of silver into the market, tremendous numbers of silver European coins being melted overseas, and other considerations. As we are writing this catalogue we've just received a copy of Robert R. Van Ryzin's new book, *Crime of 1873: The Comstock Connection*, which we have glanced through quickly and have ordered copies wholesale (and can supply a copy to you from our Publications Department). We look forward to curling up and reading it at a leisure opportunity, perhaps on a fine spring day on a chair overlooking Lake Winnepesaukee.

The Comstock Lode, discovered in the late 1850s, gave rise to a tremendous silver and gold mining industry in Nevada and spawned the Carson City Mint. Among those securing fortunes in the Comstock Lode was Adolph Sutro, who later became mayor of San Francisco and builder of the magnificent French chateau-style Cliff House overlooking Seal Rocks near the Golden Gate. A number of years ago your editor had the opportunity to poke around in a warehouse in which many of Sutro's personal possessions were stored, and acquired some pieces of interest. Regretfully and in hindsight stupidly, we did not make an offer for a filing cabinet full of glass plate negatives showing San Francisco in the early days! Oh, well!



- 1472 1877 MS-65 (PCGS).** Satiny deep iridescent steel gray surfaces show bold lustre and pale sea green toning highlights. Nicely struck from faintly clashed dies.

Popular and Scarce 1878-CC 25¢

Gem Uncirculated



- 1473 1878-CC MS-65 (PCGS).** Intense rose and gunmetal-blue iridescence on the obverse, with bright gold, rose, and violet iridescence on the reverse. An outstanding date and grade combination; there's never any shortage of popularity where quality examples of this date are concerned.

A raised die line follows the line of Liberty's right (viewer's left) leg, extending into her torso above.



- 1474 1879 MS-65 (PCGS). Rich golden iridescence mixes with electric blue at the rims, while the centers lean toward full mint brightness. The lustre literally verges on incredible, being bold and cascading broadly on the surfaces. Sharply struck.

The first of a long run of Liberty Seated quarters from the Philadelphia Mint struck without branch mint brethren. The mintages were small, as there was a glut of silver on the market, arising from the widespread release of long-stored silver coins from Treasury vaults (which commenced in a grand way on April 20, 1876), an action which in turn prompted the public to let go of silver coins that had been squirreled away since the spring and summer of 1862. Mintages in the dime series remained small through 1881, and in the quarter and half dollar series generally small through the decade of the 1880s. Most likely the Philadelphia Mint would have struck none at all, but those in charge wanted to be quite sure that numismatists were not given "Proof-only" examples, so circulation strikes were produced. This situation, generally unpublished in modern numismatic circles, has been reiterated in certain of our publications in recent years.

Regarding the 1879 quarter dollar, 13,600 circulation strikes were made. Quite a few of these were acquired by coin dealers, probably including E.L. Mason, Jr., J.W. Haseltine, J.C. Randall, and the enterprises of J.W. Scott.

The present coin is a truly lovely gem; the devices are frosted and the fields are mirrored, and the cameo contrast is equal to the task as well. Impressive!



- 1475 1880 MS-65 (PCGS). Blazing gold and champagne iridescence on cameo prooflike surfaces. The frosty design motifs are sharply rendered, adding greatly to the overall appeal. Another attractive gem example of a low-mintage date—in this case, just 13,600 circulation strikes left the Mint's presses.



- 1476 1881 MS-64 (PCGS). Satiny and nearly fully brilliant, with just a whisper of golden toning on both sides. Nicely struck and partially prooflike, especially on the reverse. One of 12,000 circulation strikes of the date produced.

Lustrous Gem Uncirculated 1882 25¢



- 1477 1882 MS-65 (PCGS). Satiny, brilliant, and extremely lustrous. A sharply struck gem from a production run for the date of 15,200 pieces.

Variety with remnants of base of 1 seen in field near base of existing 1 in date.

Gem Mint State 1883 Quarter

Tied for Finest Seen by PCGS



- 1478 1883 MS-66 (PCGS). Satiny lilac-gray with rose and sea green highlights. The underlying lustre is nothing short of superb, and the strike is very sharp as well. Easily one of the finest survivors for the date, one of 14,400 circulation strikes produced. For the record, PCGS has not certified an example of this date in a finer grade.

The formation of a set of quarters of this decade—a group such as is now confronting you in the present catalogue—is a much more difficult task than acquiring Proofs. Circulation strikes were saved as a matter of chance, and those that went to dealers such as Scott, Mason, *et al.*, were often sold through hobby publications, not specifically to numismatists, in an era in which collecting was all the rage—ranging from bird's eggs to fossils to Indian arrowheads, to stamps, to coins. Many such purchasers tired of their Liberty Seated silver coins and simply spent them. Whatever the reason, choice pieces are not particularly easy to find today, and Proofs, sold at a premium to *numismatists* and deliberately saved, are easier to acquire.

Incidentally, the editor (QDB) strongly feels that at the present time there is a great resurgence of interest in collecting things across many different areas, and in particular we look for the field of *natural history* (minerals, fossils, etc.) to surge greatly forward in the next few years (no, we are not at all dealers in such things, but have been avid collectors ever since grade school). The field of natural history has even more "problems" than does the field of rare coins, and tremendous amounts of made-up, altered, and phony items are being sold on the Internet (especially), which has pointed to the desirability of doing business with *established dealers of excellent reputation*. This philosophy was brought home to us the other day by R.M., a leading dealer in natural history specimens, who also is an avid numismatist, who said, to paraphrase: "For quite a few years Bowers and Merena Galleries has been preaching the aspect of quality rather than bargains and low price, and has been delivering excellent quality at a fair, not a *bargain* price. Now, the same thing is happening with fossils, meteorites, and mineral specimens, and knowledgeable collectors realize it is worthwhile to pay a bit more and to be secure in the confidence of buying authenticity and quality." Pardon our diversion, but many things come to mind as we create and edit these catalogues!

PCGS Population: 3; none finer.

Gem Mint State 1885 Quarter



- 1479 1885 MS-65 (PCGS). Iridescent steel gray surfaces show intense lustre and splashes of pale rose and gold. Sharply struck. One of 13,600 circulation strikes of the date produced, and clearly among the finest survivors from that mintage.

Impressive Gem Uncirculated 1886 Quarter

Just 5,000 Circulation Strikes Produced
Among the Finest Certified by PCGS



- 1480 1886 MS-65 (PCGS). Rose and electric blue dominate the lilac-gray surfaces of this prooflike gem. Sharply struck. One of only 5,000 business strikes of the date produced, that figure being among the lowest mintage figures in the entire U.S. quarter dollar series. Of that small number, very few examples of the date have received higher grades from PCGS. The present coin is a pleasing combination of rarity and value, an unbeatable combination that has never gone out of style.

PCGS Population: 8; 5 finer (MS-66).

Frosty 1887 Quarter

Gem Uncirculated



- 1481 1887 MS-65 (PCGS). Brilliant and lustrous centers give way to deepening shades of gold at the rims. Nicely struck in all places save for the obverse stars. Somewhat prooflike, especially on the reverse. From a circulation strike mintage for the date of 10,000 pieces.

From Superior's sale of May 1999, Lot 2117.

Brilliant and Lustrous 1888 25¢

Gem Uncirculated



- 1482 1888 MS-66 (PCGS). An intensely lustrous and wholly brilliant gem Mint State quarter. The strike is sharp in all places but the obverse stars; the details elsewhere are as prominent as could be desired. A truly gem example of the date; just 10,001 circulation strikes were produced.

This date saw the first branch mint quarter dollar production since 1878, with more than 1.2 million 1888-S quarters produced in San Francisco.



- 1483 1889 MS-65 (PCGS). Satiny and lustrous silver gray with a hint of blue, rose, and gold iridescence on both sides. Sharp and appealing for the grade. Just 12,000 circulation strikes of the date were produced for this, the last of the low-mintage Philadelphia Mint issues of the era.



- 1484 1890 MS-65 (PCGS). Chiefly brilliant with a nuance of pale champagne iridescence. Lustrous. The strike is sharp and the eye appeal is impressive. Definitely a gem!



- 1485 1891 MS-65 (PCGS). A brightly toned gem from the final year of the design type. Iridescent sea green and rose mingle warmly on satiny golden gray surfaces. Nicely struck from lightly clashed dies. Swan song of the Liberty Seated series.

- 1486 1907 Proof-61 (PCGS). Light gold toning highlights the attractive, moderate cameo contrast. Light hairlines in the left obverse field account for the grade. A pleasing, yet affordable Proof example of this design type.

- 1487 Four delightful Standing Liberty quarters, all with lively lustre and strong eye appeal: ☆ 1917 Type I, MS-64 FH ☆ 1917 Type II, AU-55 ☆ 1917-S Type II, AU-55 ☆ 1930-S MS-63. (Total: 4 pieces)

Sensational 1917-S Type I Quarter Dollar



- 1488 1917-S Type I. MS-66 FH (PCGS).** This amazing example has fully brilliant and frosty lustre with pristine surfaces and full design features. Even the individual details of the shield on the obverse are fully defined, an unusual occurrence. This Type I issue from the San Francisco Mint is truly a rarity in such high quality. Although 33 examples have been similarly graded by PCGS, only four coins have received the higher MS-67 FH rating. This example is doubtless the equal of any one of the four.

Lustrous 1918/7-S Quarter Dollar



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1489 1918/7-S AU-58 (PCGS).** This lovely example has lustrous satiny surfaces with light die polish lines visible in obverse and reverse fields. The result is an ever so slightly prooflike appearance. Faint heather toning adds to the overall appeal of this rarity. Although authentic specimens are never needle-sharp, and the present example is no exception to the rule, it is certain above average in this respect, and the overdate feature it is boldly visible.
- 1490 1930-S MS-66 (PCGS).** A splendid gem example of the final date in the Liberty Standing quarter series. Incredibly bright splashes of iridescent gold, peach, rose, violet, and indigo grace the highly lustrous, satiny surfaces. A toning lover's delight.

Classic 1797 Half Dollar Rarity

A Numismatic Prize



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1492 1797 O-101. Rarity-5. EF-40 (ANACS).** Lilac-gray surfaces with lighter lilac high points and a splash of iridescent blue at the rims. A pleasing example of this great and prominent rarity, an aesthetically appealing piece devoid of all but the most trivial marks. A classic rarity, a date that shared a tiny mintage of 3,918 coins with its counterpart from the previous year, the 1796 half dollar, likewise a rarity. The second of two years with the Draped Bust, Small Eagle die combination. In his *Encyclopedia* Walter Breen described this type as "among the most mysterious of United States coin types, as well as among the most elusive."

As noted above, this design was shared by the 1796 issue, those with 15 obverse stars and those with 16 obverse stars, as well as 1797 dated half dollars. Just 3,918 half dollars were struck during those two years, making each of the three issues greatly prized rarities. The present coin undoubtedly ranks among the top two dozen or so finest examples of the date currently known and as such, it is a very important find.

The Draped Bust portrait of Miss Liberty first appeared on the 1795 silver dollars. The design was taken from a drawing by American artist Gilbert Stuart (best remembered for his unfinished portrait of Washington), and was modeled by Mrs. William Bingham, the former Anna Willing, who was a well-known beauty of her time.

From our sale of the Herman Halpern & Gerald O. Warner Collections, March 1997, Lot 2363.

HALF DOLLARS

- 1491 1795 Overton-125. Rarity-5. Net VG-8; sharpness of F-12, but cleaned, obverse repaired in field, and skillfully holed and plugged at E of LIBERTY.** Certainly a suitable filler example of this very scarce variety.

- 1493 1805 O-108. **Rarity-4. EF-40 (ANACS).** Splashes of deep gold and violet on medium lilac-gray surfaces. A few faint marks are present, but the overall quality is high for the grade. A scarce variety.

Popular 1806 Half Dollar Variety

Pointed 6, No Stem



- 1494 1806 O-109. **Pointed 6, No Stem. AU-53.** Deep lilac-gray surfaces with some deep blue at the rims. Much lustre remains in the recessed areas. There may have been a rush on at the Mint for new dies this year; in his hurry, the engraver forgot to place a stem from the olive branch through the eagle's claw, thus creating a fascinating variety for future collectors.
- 1495 1807 Draped Bust. **VF-25.** Deep steel gray with lighter rose-gray high points. Essentially problem-free, and quite attractive for the grade.
- 1496 1811 O-104a. **Large 8. AU-58.** Lustrous steel gray with delightful iridescent gold overtones. A beautiful coin for the grade.

Rare Large 1812/1 Half Dollar



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1497 1812/1 O-101a. **Rarity-5. Large 8. EF-40 (ANACS).** Deep gray and dark steel surfaces with lighter silvery gray on the devices. A pleasing example of this rare and popular variety. Some minor verdigris around the devices obliterates the overdate features, however, other die diagnostics conclusively prove that this is the Overton-101a die marriage. Until very recently, this variety has been considered **Rarity-6**. Currently, there are probably just over 30 examples known.

Choice Mint State 1820 Half Dollar



- 1498 1820 O-105. **Knobbed 2. MS-64 (PCGS).** This lovely Mint State 1820 half dollar has natural ivory lustre with splashes of deep steel blue toning. A relatively common variety, however, this coinage date is quite scarce and seldom available in any grade approaching Mint State. The opportunity to bid on a choice example will certainly be a pleasure for the specialist, as adding long-sought coins of excellent quality is, indeed, exceedingly enjoyable.

The 1820 half dollar is generally regarded as the rarest *date* among Capped Bust issues of the 1820s.

Choice Mint State 1824 / 1 Half Dollar



1499 1824/1 O-101. MS-64. A lustrous delight. Satiny silver gray surfaces display delightful pale pastel gold, rose, and violet iridescence. The strike is superb, and the overall aesthetic appeal is excellent!

1500 1825 O-109. Rarity-5. VG-10. Pale champagne highlights on silver gray surfaces. A diagonal mark on Liberty's cheek is the only mark of appreciable note. A rare variety.

1830 Half Dollar Rarity

Overton-114 Rarity-6



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

1501 1830 O-114. Rarity-6. Small O. Net EF-40 (ANACS); sharpness of AU-50, holder marked "cleaned." Now retoning in shades of deep gold. Fortunately for the avid bust half dollar collector, this very rare variety was only lightly cleaned, and its overall appearance is substantial. Definitely a variety that is on many want lists, and we expect excited bidding activity from advanced Bust half dollar enthusiasts.

Choice 1861 Confederate Restrike 50¢



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

1502 1861 Confederate Restrike. MS-63 (PCGS). Warm and deep golden toning on highly lustrous silver gray surfaces. The obverse is slightly flat in places owing to the method of production; all the restrikes are this way, accounting for the reason that grading is *per the reverse*. Regarding the reverse, it is fully prooflike and very attractive, well struck, and among the very nicest we have seen. As constant readers of our auction catalogues and price lists know, this is one of our favorite coin varieties, and although we've never kept track, certainly we have had at least a few hundred transactions over the years, many necessarily involving the same coins.

The present specimen is one of the nicest we have seen, and we suggest that an enthusiastic bid is in order.

History of the C.S.A. Restrike Half Dollar

By Q. David Bowers

In 1861, following the seizure of the New Orleans Mint by the State of Louisiana forces and later occupation by the Confederacy, it was desired to create a distinctive Confederate States of America coinage. A diesinker, A.H.M. Patterson, who resided in Commercial Place in the same city, was enlisted. A die was made bearing Confederate inscriptions and motifs and was intended to be combined with the regular 1861 Liberty Seated design die(s) currently on hand. Four patterns were made, after which the project was abandoned. As events would prove, New Orleans was in Confederate hands for only about a year, after which Union troops, under General Benjamin Butler, retook the city, just the other day (April 2001), while reading through the tail-end of our bound set of *Historical Magazine*, we came across a lengthy discussion about the re-writing of history by Benjamin Butler, his phony accounts and self-aggrandizement. Interesting stuff!

In any event, the production of the 1861 Confederate States of America pattern half dollars was not publicized at the time, nor were any subsequent numismatic accounts published, this despite a great deal of growing interest in the hobby, including the advent of the *American Journal of Numismatics* in 1866.

In spring 1879, Ebenezer Locke Mason, Jr., a Philadelphia dealer who would be an excellent subject for a psychological study today (he often criticized others for faults which he obviously had as well, some grapes were aplenty if he lost a deal, his brilliant career was unappreciated by his peers, etc., etc.), came into possession of the long-forgotten die and one of the half dollars struck from it. Seeking a profit, he wrote to the American Numismatic and Archeological Society and offered both for sale, a tender read aloud at the group's May 20, 1879, meeting, but not accepted.

However, he did find a buyer in Capt. J.W. Scott, at the time the most publicized (in terms of widespread advertising) coin and stamp dealer in New York City. Scott devised a plan whereby he would make restrikes for collectors. Seeking to lend a cachet of 1861 numismatic authenticity to the project, he had his employees look through circulating change and extract, so he said, 500 1861-O half dollars of the regular Liberty Seated design. By this time the average specimen was probably in high-level EF or AU grade (as, after such pieces had circulated for less than a year, they and other silver denominations were hoarded, and mostly remained hidden away until the spring of 1876, when silver once again was seen in quantity in circulation).

The requisite 1861-dated federal half dollars having been secured (one wonders if there might have been a few Philadelphia pieces among them?), the coins were put into a chuck and the reverses were drilled off. Each piece was then placed in a plain collar and stamped with the Confederate die. The resultant pieces all had flattened obverses and had the edge reeding somewhat squashed.

The inspiration for these half dollar restrikes came, no doubt, from the operation done by John Haseltine, J. Colvin Randall, and Peter Krider a few years earlier in 1874, when an 1861-dated die with Confederate cent inscriptions was obtained from Philadelphia diesinker Robert Lovett, Jr. After a few dozen restrikes had been produced in various metals, mostly copper, one die broke, thus making further impressions impossible. Incidentally, the editor (QDB) is presently seeking either a nice copper restrike or a decent copper-nickel impression of the Confederate cent to add to a display of Civil War tokens.

Scott in 1879 desired to make restrikes of the half dollar, but to be sure that he had at least 500 of something to give subscribers to the restrikes in case the dies broke while striking silver, he had 500 tokens made in soft white metal, with an advertising inscription for himself on the obverse and the impression of the Confederate half dollar die on the reverse. This was done, and afterward the 500 silver half dollar restrikes were produced.

Although Scott soon advertised that he was oversubscribed for the half dollars, sold out, etc., in fact he had sold only a portion of the 500 restrikes made. David U. Proskey, who worked with Scott, stated decades later that Scott had unsold pieces on hand for many years after 1879. However, by the early 20th century, most found buyers, and from that point onward the demand for them and their price increased.

Regarding Proskey, his competitor, Ed. Frossard, also of New York, had this to say about him, with a swipe at Mason as well, in the January 1881 issue of his house organ, *Numisma*:

"Bro. Mason believes that the expression 'rare thus' which has lately crept into coin catalogues, originated with Mr. S.K. Harzfeld. He is mistaken. Scott & Co.'s catalogues, generally ascribed to Mr. David Proskey, a nice looking young man, with a level head and a big India rubber conscience, have frequently contained the expression, and if any credit of originality is due in the use of the term it belongs to Mr. David Proskey.

"When you criticize fine coins, the property of your neighbor, do not stand on Bangs & Co.'s [leading New York City rare coin auctioneers] frail and cracked family cuspidor, or you will put your foot into it, as did one of our esteemed but youthful friends.—Selling good California wine at \$1.00 a gallon pays better than to get a fit of the coin publishing mania. So thinks friend [A.M.] Smith, of Philadelphia. We have not yet heard of a man making a fortune in the numismatic publishing business; have you, Bro. Mason?"

In time, the original half dollar owned by Mason and then Scott became the property of J. Sanford Saltus (who merits a footnote in numismatics as he gave his life while cleaning coins; he mistook a glass of potassium cyanide, a lethal poison used by some to clean coins, for a nearby glass of ginger ale, sipped the wrong liquid, and quickly expired). Saltus gave the coin and reverse die to the American Numismatic Society, New York. Today, the Society has named one of its awards after Saltus, but the way he died has been largely forgotten (except by numismatic historians, who find the entire matter to be curious, if unfortunate). Another original 1861 Confederate half dollar is owned by Eric P. Newman, another by John J. Ford, Jr., and the fourth is in a New England cabinet (having been purchased from Lester Merkin).

Of the 500 restrikes, it is known that at least two were made from 1861-O half dollars without their reverses having been drilled off, thus revealing a somewhat flattened image of the federal eagle under the Confederate motif (this pair of pieces was given to the New York Public Library and in 1982 was auctioned by us when we sold that institution's numismatic collection). Of the other 498, one is a curious 180 rotation double-struck mint error. Probably most of the remaining 497 are in numismatic cabinets, but are widely scattered. In our auctions and by private treaty we typically handle from three to six pieces each year. Interestingly, the white metal tokens struck from the same die by Scott are much rarer today. Apparently, most were lost or destroyed (as recently as the 1940s such

pieces were a candidates to be found in dealers' junk boxes). However, they are not as popular as the half dollar restrikes and when offered sell for less.

Regarding the preceding and various comments about 19th-century coin dealers, if any readers are fascinated by such things and are not acquainted with the Numismatic Bibliomania Society, drop us a note and we'll send membership information concerning this nonprofit group.

1503 1861 AU-50 (PCGS). Deep golden gray with some slate highlights at the rims.

1504 1861-O AU-55 (NGC). Satiny lilac-gray with some golden lustre in the recessed areas.

Splendid 1873 Arrows Half Dollar



1505 1873 Arrows. MS-65 (ICG). A splendid specimen, sharply struck, brilliant, and with satiny lustre. This variety is in fantastic demand for inclusion in type sets, as the motif with arrows at date and with motto (IN GOD WE TRUST) on the reverse was produced only in two years, 1873 and 1874. Over a long period of time we have had more high level *Proof* examples of the 1873 than we have had of Mint State coins. Here, indeed, is an *opportunity*.

Superb Gem 1877-S Half Dollar



1506 1877-S MS-66 (NGC). An attractive example with beautiful light rainbow surfaces. One of the most gorgeous Liberty Seated half dollars we have ever seen! There is no risk of overdescribing the beauty of this coin, as you will see the moment after you open your package from us!

1878-S Half Dollar Rarity

Prized Key Date of the Series



1507 1878-S G-6 (NGC). Medium slate gray fields and lighter silver gray high points. A highly collectible example, elusive in all grades, but certainly desirable as well, even in "just" G-6 as offered here. A few faint marks are noted, but the surfaces are much finer than

one might expect for the assigned grade. L and TY are bold on the obverse ribbon, with the top of the L and R also visible. A decidedly suitable filler example of this popular rarity, a coin that will enhance any Liberty Seated half dollar collection.

- 1508 1883 Net Proof-62; sharpness of Proof-64, but very lightly brushed long ago; minor hairlines in the obverse field attest to that fact. Still, a pleasing and appealing example for the grade, with impressive cameo contrast on both sides.

Commanding Gem Proof 1893 Half Dollar



- 1509 1893 Barber. Proof-66 (PCGS). A coin of a quality that virtually commands attention! Brilliant surfaces with a delicate hint of toning. Sharply struck, frosty higher areas (Proofs like this are all "cameo" and, increasingly, grading services are calling them that), and with just about any other characteristic one could hope for. A tremendous coin that will engender lasting appreciation by the successful bidder who acquires it.

- 1510 1902-O MS-62 (PCGS). Lustrous and frosty. Very attractive overall, much more attractive than one would expect to find in an MS-62 coin. In fact, if this were called MS-63 few would quarrel, and even in MS-64 there would not be a great deal of argument! Grading has been, is presently, and always will be a matter of opinion, and in our opinion the assigned number is *very conservative*. Lucky you if you are able to buy it at anywhere near a "MS-62 price."



- 1511 1916-D MS-65 (NGC). This is a lovely example of the first Liberty Walking half dollar struck at the Denver Mint. Brilliant satiny lustre is highlighted by a whisper of pinkish champagne toning. This design was created by Adolph A. Weinman and introduced in the same year as the Mercury dimes by the same artist.

- 1512 1916-D MS-64 (PCGS). Sharply struck with subdued satin lustre beneath russet, lilac, and blue toning on the obverse. The reverse is primarily light champagne.

Choice Mint State 1916-S Half Dollar



- 1513 1916-S MS-64 (PCGS). This is a highly desirable example with outstanding aesthetic appeal. Fully brilliant and lustrous with sharp design features within the context of this issue. This date and mintmark combination is quite elusive with gem examples only occasionally offered.

Among the three varieties of this year the 1916-S is head and shoulders above the others in terms of rarity. Add to this the memorable *quality* of the present coin, and you have all the ingredients for a strong price—followed by a high degree of ownership satisfaction by the successful bidder.

Brilliant, Beautiful and Rare 1919 50¢



- 1514 1919 MS-64 (PCGS). Brilliant satiny lustre. A lovely specimen of this highly prized and very elusive Philadelphia Mint date. A trace of iridescent toning may be seen on the obverse, only with very careful observation. Heavy die polish lines are present in the obverse and reverse fields.

This is one of the very finest 1919 half dollars we have ever seen in Mint State—including some we have viewed that have been called MS-65. Truly, this is a *find* for the connoisseur, a coin worthy of a very strong bid!



- 1515 1929-D MS-65 (PCGS). This delightful gem example has satiny silver lustre with a hint of ivory toning. Splashes of natural deep toning provide evidence that this half dollar has not been cleaned or otherwise impaired. This is the quality usually called "original" although we normally reserve use of the term when comparing original strikes versus restrikes. Terminology in numismatics is anything but standardized!

- 1516 1934 MS-66 (PCGS). An attractive example with brilliant ivory lustre.

- 1517 1935 MS-66 (PCGS). This outstanding example is sharply struck and displays fully brilliant, satiny silver lustre. A trace of dark toning is visible about the obverse and reverse periphery.

Superb Gem 1937-D Half Dollar



- 1518 1937-D MS-67 (PCGS). Brilliant and beautiful—as nice as the *minute* it was struck! If quality is your forte, throw caution to the wind on this one!
- 1519 1940 Proof-66 (PCGS). A delightful Proof example with deeply mirrored fields and very light cameo contrast. Virtually pristine surfaces. This lovely half dollar possesses a high degree of aesthetic appeal.
- 1520 1941 Proof-66 (PCGS). A pleasing example with attractive mirrored Proof surfaces and light champagne toning.
- 1521 1942 Proof-64. Lightly frosted motifs and mirrored fields form a modest cameo contrast. Brilliant with a nuance of rose on the high points.
- 1522 1944-D MS-67 (PCGS). A sharply struck and highly lustrous example, this lovely half dollar is tied with a number of others for finest certified by PCGS. An important opportunity for collectors of the highest-quality available.
- 1523 1944-S MS-65 (PCGS). Subdued lustre beneath natural grayish silver toning with a trace of lilac. A few very minor surface marks are visible. This is a scarce issue in gem quality.
- 1524 1945-S MS-66 (NGC). Fully brilliant and lustrous with considerable aesthetic appeal.
- 1525 1947-D MS-66 (NGC). A wonderful example of the final year of issue with examples struck in Philadelphia and Denver. Brilliant satiny lustre with a hint of light amber.
- 1526 1948 MS-66 FBL (ICG). This is a lovely example of the first Franklin half dollar issue, with fully brilliant and frosty white lustre. Sharply struck.



- 1527 1949-D MS-65 FBL (NGC). Sharply struck and fully brilliant with only a few very minor abrasions. This attractive example has a whisper of very light champagne toning. An important opportunity. Franklin half dollars are extremely popular in high grades and sharply struck. In particular the 1949-D, although available enough in lower grades and with average striking sharpness, emerges as being rare in the quality offered here.
- 1528 1949-S MS-65 FBL (PCGS). A pleasing example with sharp design features and full ivory lustre, accented by splashes of deeper toning. In the 1950s this was regarded as *the* key date in the Franklin half dollar series.

- 1529 1950-D MS-65 FBL (PCGS). This wonderful example is so very close to the next grade level and represents one of the finest MS-65 coins available. Just five PCGS submissions have received the higher MS-66 FBL grade. The specialist should consider this example very carefully.

Gem Proof 1951 Franklin 50¢

A Lovely Cameo



- 1530 1951 Proof-65 Cameo (ANACS). A frosty portrait of Ben Franklin and an equally frosty Liberty Bell form a sharp cameo contrast with deeply mirrored fields. A splash of rich iridescent gold at the rims adds to the overall appeal of this delightful gem.
- 1531 1951-D MS-65 FBL (PCGS). Sharply struck with attractive ivory lustre.
- 1532 1951-D MS-65 FBL (PCGS). This example has satiny pale gray lustre with very sharp features. A pleasing example and quite scarce.
- 1533 1951-S MS-65 FBL (PCGS). A pleasing example with fully brilliant silver lustre and very faint champagne toning. The obverse has a ring of deep iridescent toning at the border.
- 1534 1953 MS-65 FBL (PCGS). Splashes of golden brown toning serve to subdue the satiny white lustre beneath. This pleasing appearance will delight the connoisseur.



- 1535 1960-D MS-65 FBL (PCGS). This lovely half dollar has satiny silver lustre with light champagne and pale lilac toning. This is a scarce issue that is seldom found in sharply struck gem quality. Just one finer example has been graded by PCGS. A very important opportunity.



- 1536 1960-D MS-65 FBL (PCGS). A scarce issue with fully brilliant silver lustre and very sharp design features.



- 1537 1961-D MS-65 FBL (PCGS).** Fully brilliant with frosty white lustre and sharp design features. A true gem and quite scarce in this quality. This example is tied with a number of others for finest certified by PCGS.

- 1538 1962-D MS-65 FBL (PCGS).** Brilliant with very light champagne toning and a splash of golden brown at left obverse. Just one finer example has been certified by PCGS.
- 1539 1963 MS-65 FBL (PCGS).** This is the final Franklin half dollar issue before being replaced by the John F. Kennedy half dollar, quickly prepared in 1964 after the late president's assassination in November 1963. This is a very common date, except in sharply struck gem quality. None have been certified by PCGS as MS-66 FBL, thus this example is tied for finest graded.

END OF SALE

TERMS OF SALE



1 This is a public auction sale conducted by licensed and bonded auctioneers. All bids are to be per lot. No lots will be broken. Lots will be sold in numerical sequence unless the auctioneer otherwise directs. In the event of identical bids on the same lot, the lot will be awarded to the first bid received. Floor bids will take precedence over mail bids. In the event of a dispute during the floor bidding, the auctioneer's decision to award the lot to a bidder will be final. The auctioneer, at his sole discretion, may re-open any lot or put the lot up for sale again.

2 A buyer's premium of 15% will be added to the hammer price of each lot which sum will be the purchase price. This buyer's premium will be added to all invoices, without exception. (Under the present arrangement, we normally charge a fee to the seller, plus a buyer's premium to the purchaser.)

3 All sales are strictly for cash in United States funds. All remittances must be drawn on United States banks. **Invoices must be paid for promptly upon receipt in good U.S. funds.** No credit cards will be accepted for auction purchases or deposits. Shipping, handling, postage, private and/or postal insurance, and registration charges will be added for lots delivered by mail. All bidders not furnishing applicable resale permits will be responsible for sales tax as required to be collected under the laws of the state and/or other entity in which the sale is conducted. By bidding in the sale, a successful bidder agrees to be liable for any tax liabilities which may accrue by virtue of the purchase.

4 All lots must be paid in full prior to delivery, unless credit arrangements for this sale have been specifically agreed to in writing by Bowers and Merena Galleries, A Collectors Universe™ Company (subsequently referred to as Bowers and Merena in the present Terms of Sale). Previously established lines of credit, at the sole option of Bowers and Merena, may not be honored. Please contact our Accounting Department in advance if you have any questions regarding your purchasing plans. At the sole discretion of Bowers and Merena, we reserve the right to deny participation in any auction if there have been, in our opinion, credit problems, unreasonable returns, delays in payment, or any other problems in past or current sales. On any account not paid within the prescribed terms of this sale, Bowers and Merena reserves the right to extend credit and to impose periodic finance charges at the rate of 1½% per month (18% per annum) on the unpaid balance, which charges shall continue to accrue until fully paid. On any sums unpaid, if the account is referred to an attorney for collection, the buyer agrees to pay all costs, including attorneys' fees, with interest accruing on the balance, until fully paid, at the specified rate.

5 Bidders not known to us must furnish references satisfactory to Bowers and Merena and/or deposit a sum equal to 25% of the bids submitted. This sum will be applied to successful bids with the overage refunded within 10 days of the sale date. Any difference will be billed.

We reserve the right to require payment in full by all bidders, prior to the delivery of lots, even if satisfactory references or credit have been established.

6 Title does not pass until lots are paid for in full. It is the responsibility and obligation of the buyer to maintain insurance on any coins in his possession. Risk of loss is on the buyer. By bidding in the sale, the bidder agrees to permit Bowers and Merena to file any financing statement permitted under the Uniform Commercial Code without debtor's signature and to offset any accounts due, whether now or in the future, against funds or collateral in their possession. The buyer agrees not to sell, pledge, or hypothecate these auction purchases until paid for in full. Any person submitting bids on behalf of a corporation or any other entity agrees to be personally responsible for the transaction.

7 No "buy" or unlimited bids will be accepted. No bids will be accepted from minors. The auctioneer and/or Bowers and Merena reserve the right to open a lot at a reasonable price, to set bidding increments as they shall determine, and to refuse any bid which in the judgment of the auctioneer or Bowers and Merena is believed not to be made in good faith or does not qualify by reason of credit, or otherwise. Bowers and Merena may open bidding on any lot by placing a bid on behalf of the seller. Bowers and Merena may further bid on behalf of the seller, up to the amount of the reserve, by placing successive or consecutive bids for a lot, or by placing bids in response to other bidders. Any estimates of value which appear in this catalogue are an opinion, based on price lists, catalogues, and other information, as to what the lot may realize (excluding the 15% buyer's charge). At the sale, higher or lower prices may prevail. In any event, in the case of a reserve, the reserve will not exceed the high published estimate. As the catalogue is prepared considerably in advance of the sale date, estimates are subject to change. Any change in the reserve outside of the guidelines noted will be announced at the sale.

8 We cannot be responsible for errors in bidding. Please check your bid sheet carefully. Please bid in even dollar increments. All bids not in even dollar amounts, including those increased by 10% to 30% (see our special service on the bid sheet), will be rounded off to the lower whole dollar amount. We request that all bid sheets be signed, and we reserve the right to not enter bids on any sheet that has not been signed. Realizing that certain bids may be submitted by fax, telegram, or other means without a signature, we note that in any event, bidding in this auction sale constitutes acceptance by the bidder of all of the Terms of Sale.

9 All items offered in this catalogue are guaranteed to be genuine within the context of the prevailing scholarship of their respective series. Auction sales are not approval sales. Any lot may be examined before bidding.

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**MIDNIGHT, SATURDAY,
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MAY 19, 2001**

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10 The auctioneers reserve the right to postpone or cancel the sale without notice, should they in their sole discretion determine that such action is warranted. Any lot may be withdrawn without notice prior to the sale. Neither the auctioneer nor the consignor will have any obligation to the intended bidders as a result of any postponement, cancellation, or withdrawal.

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will begin 30 minutes before the session at the entrance to the auction room.

NEW BIDDERS

If you have not participated with us before, be sure to send your credit information: **Attn: Natalie Smith**, at least 10 days before the auction. There is very little time, if any, to review this information during the auction.

13 By placing a bid in this sale, you agree that this transaction shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New Hampshire. Any dispute, claim or controversy (except for non-payment) shall be settled exclusively by binding arbitration under the rules then in effect of the Professional Numismatists Guild, Inc., as if both parties to the dispute were members, at Wolfeboro, New Hampshire, or another suitable location at the option of Bowers and Merena. In the event of non-payment, at its option, Bowers and Merena may refer the matter to the PNG arbitration or elect to proceed judicially, in which case the buyer consents to jurisdiction in the courts of Carroll County, New Hampshire.

14 In the event of unsuccessful litigation, the plaintiff shall pay Bowers and Merena's legal costs, counsel and witness fees, and all other costs incurred by it in defense against such suit, together with interest at the prime rate from the date of actual disbursement.

SPECIAL SERVICES

15 If you wish to limit your total expenditure, please fill in the maximum amount you wish to spend on the MAXIMUM EXPENDITURE line at the upper portion of your bid sheet. You can then submit bids for amounts up to eight times the amount of the maximum expenditure. This is a personal service and a Bowers and Merena customer representative will personally attend to your bid sheet by bidding from the auction floor, buying lots for your account until your authorized expenditure is reached. While we will do our best in your behalf, due to the speed of the auction sale and the sometimes crowded conditions, we cannot be responsible for failure to execute such a bid properly. Due to the bookkeeping involved, this service is offered only to bidders with maximum expenditures of \$1,000 or more. MAXIMUM EXPENDITURE and ONE LOT ONLY bidding can be combined.

16 Up to five lots may be grouped with brackets for a ONE LOT ONLY purchase, if you wish to purchase only one example of a coin of which several examples appear in the sale. Such lots should be bracketed on your bid sheet. While we will do our best on your behalf, due to the speed of the auction sale and the sometimes crowded conditions, we cannot be responsible for failure to execute such a bid properly.

17 We invite you to take advantage of the optional 10% to 30% increase to help your chance of being a successful bidder. Check the appropriate place on your bid sheet.

18 Bidding in this auction sale constitutes acceptance by the bidder of the foregoing terms of sale.

IMPORTANT!

- ◆ Credit cards will not be accepted for auction deposits or payments.
- ◆ The Prices Realized list will be published approximately 30 days after the auction. Prices realized will be posted on the Internet soon after the sale at bowersandmerena.com

Please note: Transparent holders in which the auction lots are stored are to facilitate viewing and inspection of the lots and ARE NOT for long-term storage.

SUGGESTIONS FOR MAIL BIDDERS

Bidding in our auctions can be an interesting, enjoyable, and a numismatically rewarding experience. Even if you have been bidding in our sales for many years, you may find that some of the following comments will increase your success. In the event that you wish to ask further questions, phone Cynthia LaCarbonara.

 Mail your bid sheet as early as possible. This is particularly important if you are a new bidder, for it takes us time to check your references. A bid sheet mailed a few days before the sale might not reach us until a week later—at which time the coins will have been sold to others!

 As the sale date draws near, fax us your bids anytime 24 hours a day [our fax number is (603) 569-5319]. Or, telephone your bids to our Auction Department. Please follow up your phone and fax bids with written confirmation.

 We've found it best to use a work sheet to compile bids. In this way you can check back and forth throughout the catalogue, make changes and revisions, and so on. Then when you've decided on your final bids, enter them on the bid sheet. Try your best to keep the bid sheet neat and clearly understandable, listing the lots in order. Check your bid sheet carefully. You will be responsible for any bids on wrong lots or for the wrong amounts. Please be careful!

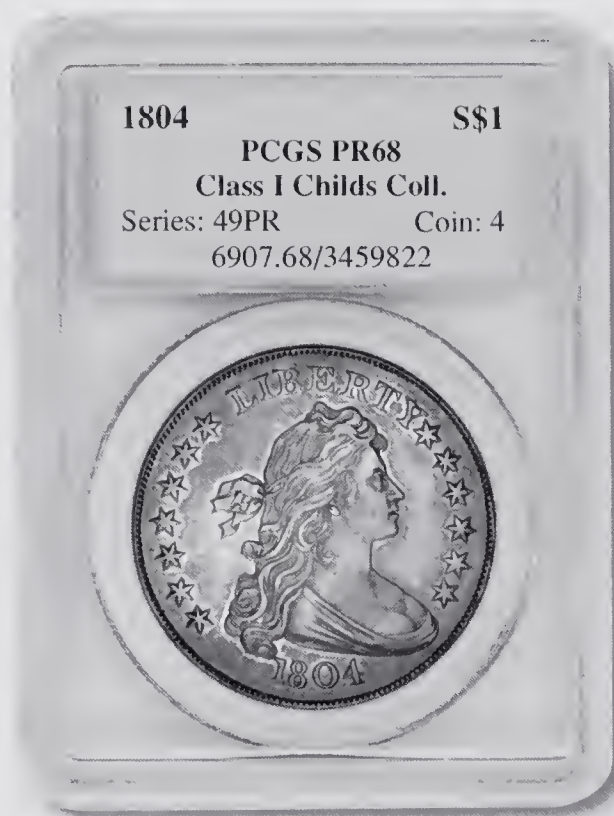
 Don't bid more than you want to pay! Review your financial circumstances carefully before bidding. There is always the possibility that you may be awarded all of the lots you bid on. If you are awarded lots, you are legally bound to pay for them immediately.

 Please keep current price levels in mind when bidding. While high and low prices sometimes occur, most items sell within market ranges. If a popular coin sells for \$500 on the retail market, chances are not good that a bid of, say, less than \$400 will win it. On the other hand, chances are excellent that a bid in the \$500 to \$600 range will be competitive. There is no harm in bargain hunting, but as your time is valuable (and so is ours), it is most productive if you keep current values in mind while bidding. The higher you bid, the greater your chances are for success. It has been our experience that many people who bid strongly, or check the options to increase bids by an optional 10% to 30%, actually purchase at least some lots below their maximum authorization once the sale takes place.

 Ink is best for writing bids. Pencil tends to blur. If bid changes are necessary, do not write over figures. Instead, cross them out completely and re-enter the bids. Put your telephone number on the bid sheet. This way we can call you if there is a question about a bid.

 Lots may be inspected by mail prior to the auction (except for large or bulk lots, or other multiple-coin lots). Please write or call for further information. Mail inspection requests must be received sufficiently early to permit return to us in time for general lot viewing prior to the sale. The person requesting mail inspection agrees to pay postage and insurance both ways and to insure and be responsible for the pieces in his or her possession.

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